



HOLY NATIVITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 17
Sunday, September 3, 2023
Rite Two at 10:30 a.m.



Pentecost

Welcome to Holy Nativity!

Prelude "Come Christians Join To Sing" (*Edward Brighton*)

John Durgan, organist

Opening Music "The God of Abraham praise"

Hymn #401



1 The God of A - braham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;
2 He by him - self hath sworn: we on his oath de - pend;
3 There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Right - eous - ness,
4 The God who reigns on high the great arch - an - gels sing,
5 The whole tri - um - phant host give thanks to God on high;



1 An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love;
2 we shall, on ea - gle - wings up - borne, to heaven a - scend:
3 tri - um - phant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;
4 and "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," cry, "Al - might - y King!
5 "Hail, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" they ev - er cry;



1 the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con - fessed:
2 we shall be - hold his face, we shall his power a - dore,
3 on Zi - on's sa - cred height his king - dom he main - tains,
4 Who was, and is, the same, and ev - er - more shall be:
5 hail, A - braham's Lord di - vine! With heaven our songs we raise;



we bow and bless the sa - cred Name for ev - er blest.
 and sing the won - ders of his grace for ev - er - more.
 and, glo - rious with his saints in light, for ev - er reigns.
 e - ter - nal Fa - ther, great I AM, we wor - ship thee."
 all might and ma - jes - ty are thine, and end - less praise.

Words: Thomas Olivers (1725-1799), alt. Music: *Leoni*, Hebrew melody; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, alt.

The Word of God

*All who celebrate a birthday in September are invited to come to the front.
 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.

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

**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.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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

The First Reading: Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring

them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.”

But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.” But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’:

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c *Confitemini Domino*

1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.

2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.

3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

4 Search for the LORD and his strength; *
continually seek his face.

5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.

23 Israel came into Egypt, *
and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.

**24 The LORD made his people exceedingly fruitful; *
he made them stronger than their enemies;**

25 Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people, *
and dealt unjustly with his servants.

**26 He sent Moses his servant, *
and Aaron whom he had chosen.**

45 Hallelujah!

The Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. *The Word of the Lord.*

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn “Sing praise to God who reigns above”

Hymn #408



1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
2 What God's al - might - y power hath made, his gra - cious mer - cy
3 Let all who name Christ's ho - ly Name give God all praise and



a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of
keep - eth; by morn - ing glow, or eve - ning shade his watch - ful
glo - ry; let all who know his power pro - claim a - loud the



our sal - va - tion; with heal - ing balm my soul he fills, and
eye ne'er sleep - eth. With - in the king - dom of his might, lo!
won - drous sto - ry! Cast each false i - dol from its throne, the



ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stills: to God all praise and glo - ry.
All is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry.
Lord is God, and he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry.

Words: Johann Jakob Schütz (1640-1690); tr. Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897), alt. Music: *Mit Freuden zart*, melody from “Une pastourelle gentille,” 1529; adapt. *Pseaumes cinquante de David*, 1547, and *Kirchengeseng darinnen die Heubtarticke des Christlichen Glaubens gefasset*, 1566; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), after Heinrich Reimann (19th cent.).

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (16:21-28)

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

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him,

saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?”

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.” *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, Liz Robin, Terry Jangula, Ursula Hixson, Jeannette Tremaine, Edyth Brown, Gerhard Klaassen, Florence Fortier, Corey and Brianna Kelly, Sue White, Tim Phillips, Dianna Hawthorne, Mike Gailfoil, Ann Watts, Joe Ciccarelli, David Smith.

For our friends: Earl Leavins, Ted Haney, Randy, Rosemary Martin, Lee Hardy, Lauren Godwin, Zach Baird, Robert Shell, Connie Gillis, John and Barbara Daniel, Sandra Roose, Jason Moss, Rosa Kulik, Bob and Debbie Snuggs, Charlie Mann, Dylan Wood, Michelle Faircloth, Denise, Maddie, Katie, Shawn and Barbara Walsh, Ann Lahan, Julie Hilton.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for School for Ministry and St. Mary's in Milton.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.

We pray for all active duty in the Armed Forces serving in Bay County and throughout the world: Wes Eberhard, Stacey Holliday, James Cowart, Austin Johnson, Michael Darrah, Robert Ice, John Lipscomb.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays: Sept. 3: Jo Bruhn, Sept. 5: Phyllis Hunt, Sept. 6: Stevens Roberson, Shelby Roberson, Sept. 7: Maggie Shuler, Sept. 8: Casey Cole, Susan Young.

No anniversaries this week.

The Altar Flowers are given today by the Seubert family 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.

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 “Close To Thee” (*Harold DeCou*)

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”
Celebrant and People

Hymnal #S-130

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and 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".

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

Closing Hymn: "The Church's one foundation"

Hymn #525

1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
 4 Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war
 5 Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God, the Three in One,

1 she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word:
 2 her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 3 by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed;
 4 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;
 5 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.

1 from heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 2 one ho - ly Name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 3 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
 4 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blessed,
 5 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we

1 with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 2 and to one hope she presses, with every grace ended.
 3 and soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.
 4 and the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.
 5 like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900). Music: *Aurelia*, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1818-1876).

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/Dir. Of Choirs	John Durgan
Chalice Bearers	Kelly Roberson and Nancy Breland
Lector	Rich Doran
Acolytes	Jackson and Laney Lee, Charlotte Eberhard
Ushers	Ian Crelling and Daniel Melzer
Greeters	Linda Weller
Altar Guild	Dan and Robin Finley, Joanne MacPhee, Nancy Roupp, Tricia Berry
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 begin this Wednesday on September 6th!

5:30 pm: Worship

6:00 pm: Dinner is served

6:30 pm: Programs for all ages

Join us for the most fun night of the week!

Shell Island is scheduled for September 17th!

Service at 11 am on the island.

Both regular services will be held at the church.

Come in your own boat, hitch a ride with a friend, or sign up to ride with someone.

The display is out on the Welcome Table.

Parish Picnic after the service. Bring a side dish and meat will be provided. Please bring your own beverages.

Order your Shell Island T-Shirts! Info at the display!

Short Sleeve: \$19

Long Sleeve: \$30 (No children's sizes in long sleeve)

\$3 extra for XXL and \$4 extra for XXXL.

Save the Dates!

October 4: St. Francis of Assisi Pet Blessing

October 22: Pig Roast for Camp Beckwith

October 25: Trunk and Treat

Baylights at Beckwith: Sept. 29-Oct. 1

Register and Purchase tickets for this event at www.beckwithal.come/baylights

Music Entertainment, Bishop's BBQ, and Low Country Boil

One Saturday there will be a live ticket draw down. \$100 a ticket. Win a week in Tuscany, Italy or Antiqua for 2 or 4 people. More information on the table near the welcome table.

Madge Smith has draw down tickets for purchase! madge@holy-nativity.org

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)

Wednesdays

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