



# Holy Nativity



**The Fifth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**July 5, 2020**

## The Prelude

### The Collect of the Day

*Presider:* God be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*The Presider says.*

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### A Reading from the Hebrew Scripture Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

The servant said to Laban, "I am Abraham's servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'

"I came today to the spring, and said, 'O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also" – let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son.'

"Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son.

Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left."

And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes." Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

*Lector:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

### **Song of Solomon 2:8-13**

**The voice of my beloved!**

**Look, he comes,**

**leaping upon the mountains,  
bounding over the hills.**

**My beloved is like a gazelle  
or a young stag.**

**Look, there he stands  
behind our wall,**

**gazing in at the windows,  
looking through the lattice.**

**My beloved speaks and says to me:**

**"Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away;**

**for now the winter is past,  
the rain is over and gone.**

**The flowers appear on the earth;  
the time of singing has come,  
and the voice of the turtledove  
is heard in our land.**

The fig tree puts forth its figs,  
and the vines are in blossom;  
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away."

### A Reading from the New Testament Romans 7:15-25a

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

*Lector:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

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



## The Gospel

*Presider:* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
according to Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30.

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

Jesus said to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

*Presider:* The Gospel of the Lord

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

## The Sermon

The Reverend Judy Baldwin



## The Prayers of the People

God of life, we come to you from many places: some hearts overflow with joy and gratitude, others are barely hanging on to hope and faith. For some this is an ordinary morning; for others, every step feels fragile.

Holy One, meet us where we are and bind us to each other, that in the community of your love we might discover our wholeness. We name before you now the concerns of our hearts by saying, Hear us, Lord, Hear us.

God of every beginning, we pray for your children: for infants harbored in their mothers' wombs, for children exploring the world and testing their imaginations, for youth discovering their own integrity. We pray for children who cannot take safety and comfort for granted.

Let us pray to the Lord.  
**Hear us, Lord. Hear us.**

Author of time, we ask your blessing on our work and our rest: in jobs that feed our souls and in jobs that do not satisfy, in volunteer service and routine daily tasks, in long hours of caregiving and in hours we do not know how to fill – come to us and show us how we might serve you. We pray for those whose needs we know and for those with hidden needs.

Let us pray to the Lord.  
**Hear us, Lord. Hear us.**

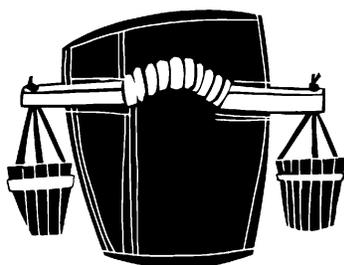
God of all creation enlarge the circles of our concern. Teach us to care for brothers and sisters whose lives are different from our own, for those whose challenges are daunting, whose needs may differ from what we know. Help us to stand with others in their needs as we pray that they will stand with us in ours. Let us be one family in you.

Let us pray to the Lord.  
**Hear us, Lord. Hear us.**

Teach us to care for the earth on whose gifts we all depend. Holy God, we pray for your world. Let us hold on to the hope of peace for ourselves and for the world that will be for our children. Empower us that we may bring such a world into being.

Let us pray to the Lord.  
**Hear us, Lord. Hear us.**

*Officiant:* Closing Prayer



## The Confession of Sin

*Presider:* Let us confess our sins to God.

*People:* **God of all mercy,**  
**we confess that we have sinned against you,**  
**opposing your will in our lives.**  
**We have denied your goodness in each other,**  
**in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**  
**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,**  
**the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.**  
**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us**  
**through our Savior Jesus Christ,**  
**that we may abide in your love**  
**and serve only your will. Amen.**

*The Presider says*

May God love you and have mercy upon you;  
Through the cross of Christ, pardon you and set you free.  
God forgives you. Forgive others. Forgive yourself.  
In the name of the Source, the Word, and the Spirit. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Presider:* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

## Welcome to Holy Nativity

*We welcome everyone to Holy Nativity  
and announce upcoming events.*



## THE HOLY COMMUNION

## The Presentation Hymn

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory  
Lift Every Voice and Sing II, No. 226

## The Great Thanksgiving

*The Sursum Corda is a form of introduction to prayer.  
Here begins the Great Thanksgiving.*

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The Presider continues.*

Creative God, source of all life and ground of our being, you are the vibrant energy dancing at the center of the universe. Through us, you move; and through us, you are made known to the world. Co-creators with you, we are emboldened to move beyond ourselves to find courage to let go of old ways and welcome new life.

For by water and the Holy Spirit, you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

And so in concert with those of every generation who have been touched by your redeeming love, we lift our praise to you.

## **Sanctus**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Presider continues.*

Holy God, known and beyond all knowing, in your image you created us, male and female, giving the earth into our care. In our arrogance, we lost touch with the breath of God within us and the divinity of the creation, growing blind to its beauty and deaf to its harmonies. But through Christ, born of a woman, your deep abiding love reclaimed us and re-aligned us with the flow of the universe.

On the evening in an upper room, with his friends around him, our brother Jesus blessed the bread, broke it, and shared it with all who were gathered, saying, "This bread is my body, an offering of God's love for all. When you eat it, remember me."

Taking the cup of wine, he blessed it and shared it with all who were gathered, saying, "Take this wine. It is my blood. God's promise of new life for all. When you drink it, remember me."

God, in memory of Jesus, who healed people and washed disciples' feet, who loved children and honored outcasts, who fed people and turned water into wine, who died and rose to new and unending life - we ask that you breathe on this bread and this wine, filling them with the transforming power of the Christ.

*All:*

**Breathe through us, God, that our bodies, minds, souls, and spirits may be filled with your life-giving presence. Make us again a holy people, strongly bound to you, firmly rooted in the earth, with eyes to see all life as sacred. Empower us to spread the light of Christ in our troubled and confusing world. Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

*Presider:* And now, as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

*All:*

**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 Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Presider:* Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People:* **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## The Invitation

*Presider:* Bread and wine; the gifts of God for the people of God.

*People:* **May we who share these gifts be found in Christ and Christ in us.**

## Communion



## The Post-Communion Prayer

**God of abundance,  
you have fed us with the bread of life  
and the cup of salvation;  
you have united us with Christ and one another,  
and you have made us one with all your people  
in heaven and on earth.  
Now, send us forth in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever in the risen life  
of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## The Closing Hymn

Lift Every Voice and Sing  
Lift Every Voice and Sing II, No. 1

## The Blessing and Dismissal

*Presider:* Go forward, knowing that you do not go this way alone. Nor do we have to be afraid, for the Word of God strengthens us and the Holy Spirit guides our path.

And may the peace that passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God's son, Jesus Christ. May the blessing of God, our mother and father, and of Jesus, who redeemed us, and the Holy Spirit, who sustains us, be with us this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

*Presider:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## The Postlude



# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY NATIVITY

*THE REVEREND JUDY BALDWIN, INTERIM RECTOR*

Cell.305.393.3395

6700 West 83rd Street, Los Angeles, California 90045  
holynativitylax@gmail.com

310.670.4777  
www.holynativityparish.org

Senior Warden  
Junior Warden  
Vestry Members

Janet Murry  
Jerry Gebhardt  
Kirk Anderson, Ben Davis, Jerry Gebhardt, Keiichi Matsumoto  
Janet Murry, Annette, Owens, Margie Wakeman Wells



Altar Guild Director  
Choir Accompanist and Leader  
Director of Children and Youth Ministries  
FEAST Director (Faith Enrichment and Spiritual Training)  
Garden Manager  
Lay Associate for Pastoral Care  
Parish Administrator  
Sexton  
Treasurer

Carol Garvey  
Rose Chen  
Michaela Matsumoto  
Dr. Brad Elliott Stone  
Anita Banu  
Roxanne Hill  
Barbara Kaye  
Kirk Anderson  
Benjamin Davis

## DIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES

Bishop Diocesan  
Bishop Suffragan

The Right Reverend John H. Taylor  
The Right Reverend Diane Jardine-Bruce

### MISSION STATEMENT

**We are a community of people who share our joy  
in the peace and love of God with our children and neighbors.  
We support each other as we celebrate God's blessings in our  
lives through worship, prayer, music, and service to others.**