



# Holy Nativity



**The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
October 11, 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.*

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### A Reading from the Hebrew Scripture Exodus 32:1-14

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord." They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

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

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

## Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23

- 1 Hallelujah!  
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Who can declare the mighty acts of the Lord \*  
or show forth all his praise?
- 3 Happy are those who act with justice \*  
and always do what is right!
- 4 Remember me, O Lord, with the favor you have for your people, \*  
and visit me with your saving help;
- 5 That I may see the prosperity of your elect  
and be glad with the gladness of your people, \*  
that I may glory with your inheritance.
- 6 We have sinned as our forebears did; \*  
we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.
- 19 Israel made a bull-calf at Horeb \*  
and worshiped a molten image;
- 20 And so they exchanged their Glory \*  
for the image of an ox that feeds on grass.
- 21 They forgot God their Savior, \*  
who had done great things in Egypt,
- 22 Wonderful deeds in the land of Ham, \*  
and fearful things at the Red Sea.
- 23 So he would have destroyed them,  
had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, \*  
to turn away his wrath from consuming them.

## A Reading from the New Testament Philippians 4:1-9

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

*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 22:1-14.

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

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

*Presider:* The Gospel of the Lord

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

## The Sermon

The Reverend Judy Baldwin



## The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the needs of the world, saying, Hear us, Lord. Hear us.

That all in the church will truly hear your words and have the courage so to live. Let our lives be generous in giving and grateful for all we have been given.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord. Hear us.**

That as the Lord guided Moses through the desert and gave his people much-needed rules, God will guide our country, its leaders, and its citizens. Guide us as we work to have an election that is open to all citizens. Be with us as we prepare to vote. Let us align ourselves with the message you preached through Jesus, the Christ.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord. Hear us.**

That justice and peace will be the signs of our trust in God, let us work tirelessly to follow Jesus' teachings to care for the poor and the most vulnerable. Help us and our country to use our resources in ways that reflect the word of God.

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

That the church, in the spirit of Paul, may preach the gospel not merely in words but in our actions in the power of the Holy Spirit. Let the "wedding garment" that we put on be our work for equality among races, genders, persons of diverse economic levels or sexuality. Help us, God, to stand before you clothed in righteousness.

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

That each of us, following Jesus, may be truthful, courting no one's favor, but living with simplicity and honesty. Let there be in us no greed, self-interest or prideful judgment of others.

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

That wherever there is violence, especially within a family, we may be enabled to confess our part in the silence that allows such relationships to continue, hidden or in the open. We pray that your healing and safety may come to all homes.

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

That like the apostle Paul, all the people in the church may live their faith mindful of the disadvantaged, the homeless, the imprisoned, the persecuted, and the sick, and that by God's power, the suffering of all creation may be relieved.

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

That we may remember with gratitude the witness of those who have kept the faith which is passed in trust to us. Keep us steadfast in faith and good works. Into your hands we commend the well-being of all creation, trusting in your compassion and that you see and know all our needs, through Jesus Christ.

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

Go Down, Moses  
Lift Every Voice and Sing II, No. 228  
Performed by Caroline McKenzie

## 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

If I Had a Hammer  
Lyrics and Music by Pete Seeger

## 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,  
Janet Murry, Annette Owens, Margie Wakeman Wells



Altar Guild Director  
Choir Accompanist and Leader  
FEAST Director (Faith Enrichment and Spiritual Training)  
Garden Manager  
Lay Associate for Pastoral Care  
Office Administrator  
Treasurer

Carol Garvey  
Rose Chen  
Dr. Brad Elliott Stone  
Anita Banu  
Roxanne Hill  
Barbara Kaye  
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.**