



# Holy Nativity



**The Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**May 24, 2020**

*Website Version: [holynativityparish.org](http://holynativityparish.org)*

## The Prelude

### The Collect of the Day

*Presider:* God be with you.

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

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*The Presider says.*

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### A Reading from the New Testament, Acts 1:6-14

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

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



## Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

- 1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; \*  
let those who hate him flee before him.
- 2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; \*  
as the wax melts at the fire,  
so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; \*  
let them also be merry and joyful.
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;  
exalt him who rides upon the heavens; \*  
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!
- 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, \*  
God in his holy habitation!
- 6 God gives the solitary a home  
and brings forth prisoners into freedom; \*  
but the rebels shall live in dry places.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, \*  
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,  
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, \*  
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; \*  
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- 10 Your people found their home in it; \*  
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
- 33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; \*  
sing praises to the Lord.
- 34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; \*  
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
- 35 Ascribe power to God; \*  
his majesty is over Israel; his strength is in the skies.
- 36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! \*  
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!  
Blessed be God!

## A Reading from the New Testament, 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour.

Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

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

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

*Presider:* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
according to John 17:1-11.

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

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

*Presider:* The Gospel of the Lord

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

## The Sermon

Dr. Brad Elliott Stone



## The Prayers of the People

Redeeming God, you call us to devote ourselves to prayer for the sake of our brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ. Therefore, let us offer our prayers this day on behalf of your church and the world saying, Hear us, Lord. Hear us.

Rescuing God, parent of orphans and protector of widows, help your people to provide a home for the desolate to live in, and to lead the prisoners into safety. Help us to order the patterns of our common life to support the health of your human family and the welfare of your world.

Let us pray to the Lord.

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

Steadfast God, you have given to your church the inheritance of faith in Christ and bestowed your Spirit's love upon us. Help us to grow in strength and courage to witness in our actions to this hope, that all may find your saving love.

Life-giving God, you can send rain in abundance to relieve the parched crops and thirsty land and make clean the winds of heaven. Help us to find sustainable solutions as we seek to honor and care for the well-being of your creation. Help us to share, especially food, with those for whom good food is scarce.

Let us pray to the Lord.

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

Loving God, you heard the sufferings of your people, listened to our cries, and sent your Son into our world who was no stranger to our pain. Help us to offer your healing and compassion as we minister to others in the mercy of your Christ. We pray especially for those with diseases that have no cure, and for those who are ill and alone.

Resurrecting God, you draw near to those who are sick and dying. Give to them compassionate nurses and aides who remember that these are your children and will treat them with care. Give to us, who are afraid of the virus that threatens us, a constant trust in the steadfastness of your love.

Let us pray to the Lord.

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

Gentle God, protect those soldiers this Memorial day who fight for peace, who fight to protect their homes and families. Keep us mindful of those who entered World War I to fight for their country, for those who made it home and for those who did not. We pray for all soldiers who risk their lives for the good of others.

Compassionate God, we pray for our seniors graduating from high school and college in this most unusual year. Let the Obama's address and the admiration of their families, friends and their church family make up to some extent for the things they have lost in their traditional graduation. Send our love to Kimmia Saunders, April Owens, Rhyan Borden, Ahmani Dunn, and Niles Jones. Protect them and keep them under the shelter of your wing. Let their hearts be full of pride for all they have accomplished.

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



## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### The Presentation Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is  
The Hymnal 1982, No. 645

### 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 God thanks and praise.**

*The Presider continues.*

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

### 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.*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

*Presider:* Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*People:* **Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

*The Presider continues.*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **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.*

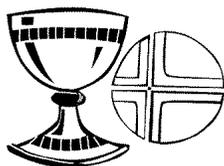
*Presider:* Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*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.**



## The Post-Communion Prayer

**We praise you, O God, and give you thanks  
that you have given us such joy, such grace, and such hope  
in the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Let our lives be proof of that good news.**

**Let all our words and actions, our love and service  
bear witness to your resurrection power,  
for the sake of our living Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## The Closing Hymn

Amazing Grace  
The Hymnal 1982, No. 671

## The Easter 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  
Office Manager  
Parish Administrator  
Sexton  
Treasurer

Carol Garvey  
Rose Chen  
Michaela Matsumoto  
Dr. Brad Elliott Stone  
Anita Banu  
Roxanne Hill  
Barbara Kaye  
Margie Wakeman Wells  
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.**