

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Aid for February 23rd, 2025 at 10:15 am



Love God, Love People, Make Disciples

Nativity: an inclusive faith community, following the way of Jesus to nourish the body, mind, and spirit of the people of our south metro communities and beyond.

Nativity Episcopal Church is committed to practice the way of love. We follow Jesus' example of radical hospitality as we celebrate God's presence in all people. We welcome all persons, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, age, physical or mental capacity, education, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic or marital status. All are invited as full participants in the life and ministries of our community.

You may reach the office at Nativity@NativityMN.org or 952-435-8687

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, or confused. We especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers. We welcome you whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself. You're welcome here if you're 'just browsing,' just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're a regular church goer or haven't been to church since Christmas ten years ago. We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome hockey moms, football dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters.

We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like 'organized religion.' We offer a welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or are here because granny is visiting, and you wanted to take her to church. We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throat as kids, or got lost looking for Buck Hill and wound up here by mistake. We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters, and you! If you've been away for a while, welcome back. If you haven't been getting our weekly email, Nativity E-Notes, and would like to reconnect, please let the office know at Nativity@NativityMN.org.

If you need assistance during the service, please ask an usher or someone near you for help. Children of all ages are welcome to be present at worship. The noise and voices of our children are welcome here. Children are welcome to do quiet activities in the quiet space we call the PrayerGround, at the left front of the church. We ask that you sit in pews near them. There are also activity bags with books and crayons available near the entrance to the sanctuary that young ones can take to their pews. If you like, we also encourage you to bring your children forward at the time of Communion to receive either Communion or a blessing.

Thank you for worshipping with us today,
The Reverend Dana Fath Strande, Rector

Nativity Episcopal Church Leadership
The Rev. Dana Fath Strande, Rector
The Rev. Kathleen K. Brusco, Assisting Priest
The Rev. Diane Luther, Deacon
Chloe Hrbacek, Parish Office Coordinator
Clayton Heidbreder, Music Minister
Charlotte McLendon, Organist

Nate Gooden, Senior Warden
Andrea Thermos, Junior Warden
Steve Grier, Treasurer

15601 Maple Island Road, Burnsville, MN 55306
nativitymn.org; 952-435-8687
Office email: nativity@nativitymn.org

Liturgical Ministers
Lector: Marguerite Kirchhoff
Prayer Leader:
Eucharistic Minister:
Ushers: Jennifer Strub
Announcements:
Tech:

Next Week: March 2nd

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Lector | Linclis Lewis |
| Prayer Leader | |
| Eucharistic Minister | Phyllis Rowley |
| Usher (x2) | |
| Announcements | Paul Brusco |
| Tech | |

OPENING HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (Hymnal 390)

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth: borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
 fend thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 need - est hath been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 might - y can do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

OPENING ACCLAMATION AND PRAYER

Presider: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: **And blessed be God's kingdom now and for ever.**

Amen.

Presider: God of all time,

we praise and adore you for breaking into the darkness of this world
with the glorious light of your presence.

A light which made your love for the world visible
in the babe born in Bethlehem—

Jesus Christ, your Son, our Saviour.

A light which guided those gift-bearing travelers from afar
to find and worship the Christ-child.

A light which leads us to you, now revealed in Jesus Christ.

We pray that you will accept our worship

for it arises from hearts and minds

in awe over the enormity of your gift to us of pure love.

In Jesus' name we pray.

All: **Amen.**

GLORIA

1. Glo - ry to you, Lord
God of our fa - thers; you are wor - thy of praise;
glo - ry to you. 2. Glo - ry to you
for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; we will
praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.
3. Glo - ry to you in the splen - dor of your
tem - ple; on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to
you. 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -
ween the Cher - u - bim; we will praise you and
high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.
5. Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the
depths; in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to
you. 6. Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther,
Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will praise you and
high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 37:1-12, 41-42

There are 4 measures to the chant, spread out over 2 verses then repeated. The first note is held for most of the line until the underline signals moving to next note.



- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- 2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade a-way.
- 3 Put your trust in the Lord and do good; *
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
- 4 Take delight in the Lord, *
and he shall give you your heart's de-sire.
- 5 Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.
- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.
- 7 Be still before the Lord *
and wait patiently for him.
- 8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage a-lone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- 10 For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the land.
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the Lord; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 The Lord will help them and rescue them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because they seek refuge in him.

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu -
 - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al -
 - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 6:27-38

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

The Gospel is read.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S RESPONSE TIME

All children and youth are invited to go with a Children & Youth ministry volunteer during the sermon and prayers.

SERMON

The Rev. Dana Fath Strande

NICENE CREED

Deacon: Let us declare our faith in God.

Presider and All:

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon: O Lord Jesus Christ, guide us in our journey to you, and bring us to the truth of our salvation. Open our eyes to see your divinity, open our ears to your Word, awaken our hearts to your love for us, and free us to worship you with all our being.

Silence may be kept.

Leader: Lord Jesus, you have taught us to pray for our needs and for those of others. We ask you this day to bless and keep all who serve you in your Universal Church. We ask your blessing on Sean our Presiding Bishop and Craig our bishop. We ask your blessing on all of us at Nativity. Watch over our ministries, care for our faithful, guide our work in Building Our Future. Bless the Anglican Church of Brazil. Hold in your love all who gather to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We ask this of you, O Christ,

All: **Hear us, we pray.**

Leader: Shine your light upon the leaders of all nations, Lord Jesus. Teach them the way of compassion. Guide them by the light of your own humility and courage. We ask this of you, O Christ.

All: **Hear us, we pray.**

Leader: May your many gifts to us prompt us to treasure your work of creation, that we will tend to this earth and the creatures that live upon it, that we may preserve your generous gifts, and that we may see each part of our world for the holy blessing that it is. We ask this of you, O Christ.

All: **Hear us, we pray.**

Leader: In your goodness, Lord Jesus, helper of all humankind, be with those many who have need of you. Stand with those who are oppressed, guide those who are searching for meaning, comfort and strengthen those who are ill or in pain of any kind. We pray today especially for...are there others?

The people may add their own petitions.

Leader: Savior of the world, be with those in need.

All: **Hear us, we pray.**

Leader: Give to these departed eternal rest...are there others?

The people may add their own petitions.

Leader: Grant them continual growth in your love. Hold them and those who mourn them in your tender care. And we pray for those whose life is near its end...are there others?

The people may add their own petitions.

Leader: We ask these blessings from you, O Christ.

All: **Hear us, we pray.**

Deacon: Accept these our prayers, gracious Father in heaven. Stand us on your holy mountain and with your Spirit, show us the truth of our salvation in the being of Jesus, our Savior. We ask this as your faithful children.

All: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our Neighbor.

All: **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.**

Presider: 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.

All: **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, OR ANY OTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR A BLESSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

The Presider invites the gifts of the congregation, with these or other words

Presider: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

Presider: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Presider: 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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
 might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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!

Presider: 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."

Presider: Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All: **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Presider: 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 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.

All: **AMEN**

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

Presider and 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
forever 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.

All: **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

FRACTION ANTHEM

All Who Hunger

Cantor(s).

1. All who hun-ger, gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na
is our bread. Come from wil - der - ness and wan-d'ring.
Here, in truth, we will be fed. You that yearn for
days of full-ness, all a - round us is our food.

Refrain

All:

Taste and see the grace e - ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

INVITATION

Presider: So come to this table,
you who have much faith
and you who would like to have more;
you who have been here often
and you who have not been for a long time;
you who have tried to follow Jesus,
and you who have failed;
Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Presider: The Gifts of God for the people of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith,
with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION HYMN

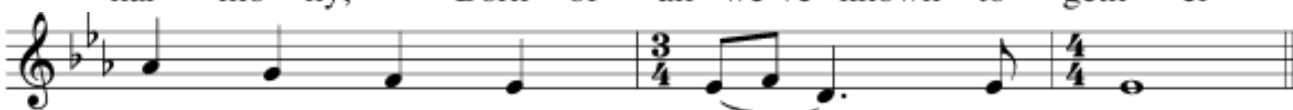
The Servant Song



1., 6. Will you let me be your ser - vant, Let me be as
2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, We are trav - 'lers
3. I will hold the Christ - light for you In the night - time
4. I will weep when you are weep - ing; When you laugh I'll
5. When we sing to God in heav - en We shall find such



Christ to you; Pray that I may have the grace to
on the road; We are here to help each oth - er
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
har - mo - ny, Born of all we've known to - geth - er



Let you be my ser - vant, too.
Walk the mile and bear the load.
Speak the peace you long to hear.
'Til we've seen this jour - ney through.
Of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider and All:

**Be with us, Lord, as we go out into the world.
May our lips that have sung your praise,
always speak the truth.
May our ears which have heard your Word,
listen to where there is fear and pain.
May our bodies which have been fed at your table,
take love and peace as we walk in the world as your light.
May our daily life reveal and rejoice in your loving presence.
Amen.**

BLESSING

Presider: May Christ, the Son of God,
be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always

All: **Amen**

CLOSING HYMN

Give Thanks for Life

1. Give thanks for life, the meas - ure of our days,
2. Give thanks for those who made their life a light
3. And for our own, our liv - ing and our dead,
4. Give thanks for hope, that like the wheat, the grain

mor - tal, we pass through beau - ty that de - cays, yet
caught from the Christ flame burst - ing through the night, who
thanks for the love by which our life is fed, a
ly - ing in dark - ness does its life re - tain, in

sing to God our hope, our love, our praise,)
touched the truth, who burned for what is right,) Al -
love not changed by time or death or dread,)
res - ur - rec - tion to grow green a - gain.)

le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

TODAY AT NATIVITY
Jigsaw Puzzle & Book Exchange
After Coffee Hour – Sunday, Feb. 23rd

WEEKLY AT NATIVITY

Community Café
5-6pm – Wednesdays

Handbell & Choir
5 & 6pm – Tuesdays

Adult Forum
9am – Sundays

Evening Prayer
6pm – Wednesdays

UPCOMING

Shrove Tuesday on a Sunday
After service – Sunday, Mar. 2nd

Ash Wednesday Services
12 Noon & 6:30pm – Wednesday, Mar. 5th

Stations of the Cross
6pm – Fridays during Lent

Newcomer Orientation
After service – Sunday, Mar. 9th

