

Ascension

Worship Aid for May 17th, 2026 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

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
 Jean Hines, Children and Youth Minister

Nate Gooden, Senior Warden
 Theresa May, 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: Mary Feeney
 Eucharistic Ministers: Phyllis Rowley & Sue McComber
 Ushers: Jennifer Strub & Dave Rowley
 Tech: Nate Gooden

Next Week: May 24th

Lector	Adam Silkey
Prayer Leader	
Eucharistic Ministers	David Seal
Usher (x2)	
Tech	Elliott Grier

Flower Donations

Thanks to those who have donated to our flower fund to beautify the sanctuary for the Easter Season

Donald & Alice Tracey <i>In thanksgiving for family</i>	Ray & Mary Ellingrud <i>In memory of Bonnie & Chuck</i>	Doug & Sally Maust <i>In thanksgiving for family</i>
Diane & Steve Grier <i>In memory of Aunt Melba & Sister Ginny</i>	Mary Feeney <i>In memory of Jessica Briggs</i>	Ruth Erickson <i>In memory of Robert L. Erickson</i>

Lisa & Tim Elliott
*In memory of family & friends
In thanksgiving for grandchildren
Nicholas & Ellie
Linda Lange
In memory of Dan Lange
Jennifer Strub
In memory of William F. Strub Jr.
Dennis & Christina Kopischke
In thanksgiving for the Nativity
Community
Bruce & Christine Nelson
In thanksgiving for their children,
Danial, Jillian, and soon to be
daughter in law, Christina
Tamera & James Loerzel
In memory of Terrence & Diane
Beauchane and Francis & Phyllis
Loerzel*

Bob & Barbara Hurwitt
*In memory of their parents &
grandparents
Animal Lovers
In thanksgiving for our beloved pets
that bring us joy
Arlene Taterka
In thanksgiving for faithful friends
Avelenna Melsha
In thanksgiving for family & friends
Adrian Schottroff & Cathy Reichert
In thanksgiving for family
Brenda Steinkamp & Maverick and
Brenner Noyes
In thanksgiving for babies Charlotte
& Cosette and the health of Dennis,
Cynthia, and Ruth
Rich & Dorinda Ringhofer
In thanksgiving for family & friends
during time of illness*

Anna Homuth
*In thanksgiving for family & friends
Gretchen Goodman
In memory of Glen Goodman
Carolyn Selser
In memory of Harry A. Selser
Michael, Dana & Nora Strande
In memory of Amara Strande
Susan McComber
In memory of Scott McComber
Francesca Carr
In thanksgiving for Sandy B. &
Carolyn S.
Marilyn Schwartz
In memory of Greg Schwartz
Desmond & Linclis Lewis
In memory of their parents –
Sylvester & Elizabeth Lewis and
Beorgoh & Rita Lewis*

THE GREAT 50 DAYS OF EASTER

Easter is the primary feast of the church year, and such an important celebration that it doesn't just last one day – it continues for seven weeks, until the Feast of Pentecost (May 19 this year).

White is the liturgical color for the whole season, signifying purity, love, joy, and the Light of Christ.

Alleluia! We fasted from this expression of joy during Lent, and now Alleluia will fill our worship. **The Gloria** or other song of praise, near the beginning of our worship, also return after a Lenten hiatus.

Reading from Acts. During the Easter season, one of our scripture readings each Sunday is always from the Acts of the Apostles, drawing our attention to the establishment and growth of the church in the early days after Jesus's death, resurrection, and ascension.

No General Confession. We spent the season of Lent in self-examination and repentance. Easter is an assurance that we are forgiven and made right with God, not through our own goodness but by the death and resurrection of Christ. You are encouraged to continue personal confession as part of your daily prayers. But as a community we will emphasize that we are "Easter People" by omitting the general confession.

OPENING HYMN

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise (Hymnal 214)

1 Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 There the glo - rious tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!
 *3 See! he lifts his hands a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Lord be - yond our mor - tal sight, Al - le - lu - ia!



glo - rious to his na - tive skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
 lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates! Al - le - lu - ia!
 See! he shows the prints of love; Al - le - lu - ia!
 raise our hearts to reach thy height, Al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Wide un - fold the ra - diant scene; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!
 there thy face un - cloud - ed see, Al - le - lu - ia!



en - ters now the high - est heaven! Al - le - lu - ia!
 take the King of glo - ry in! Al - le - lu - ia!
 bless - ings on his Church be - low. Al - le - lu - ia!
 find our heaven of heavens in thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Llanfair*, Robert Williams (1781-1821).

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Presider: 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.

All: **Amen.**

GLORIA

(Hymnal S280)

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
 King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

All: Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING


Acts 1:1-11

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 47

Antiphon:



God has gone up _____ with a shout, the LORD _____ with the _____ sound of the ram's - horn.

From *A HymnTune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition* © 2007 by Carl P. Daw, Jr. and Kevin R. Hackett. Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

- 1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; *
shout to God with a cry of joy.
- 2 For the Lord Most High is to be feared; *
he is the great King over all the earth. *Antiphon*
- 3 He subdues the peoples under us, *
and the nations under our feet.
- 4 He chooses our inheritance for us, *
the pride of Jacob whom he loves. *Antiphon*
- 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; *
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
- 7 For God is King of all the earth; *
sing praises with all your skill. *Antiphon*
- 8 God reigns over the nations; *
God sits upon his holy throne.
- 9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered to-gether *
with the people of the God of Abraham.
- 10 The rulers of the earth belong to God, *
and he is highly ex-alted. *Antiphon*

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the Holy Anthem Rise

1. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Let the
 ho - ly an - them rise, And the choirs of heav-en
 chant it In the tem - ple of the skies; Let the
 moun - tains skip with glad - ness And the
 joy - ful val - leys ring With ho - san - nas in the
 high - est To our Sav - ior and our King!

Text: Edward Caswall, 1814-1878

Tune: HOLY ANTHEM, 8 7 8 7 D; traditional melody; harm. by Jerry R. Brubaker, b.1946

THE GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

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

Rev. Dana Fath Strande

NICENE CREED

Presider: 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: Blessed Lord Jesus, in this the season of your Resurrection, let us be made new in your grace. Fill our hearts with your love and show us how to trust in you and to do your work every day. Risen Lord Jesus,

All: **Be known to us.**

Leader: We ask for blessings on your whole church. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury. We pray for the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea. In the Episcopal Church we pray for Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop, for Craig Loya, our bishop. In our Nativity Community, we pray for all leaders and people, for Building Our Future and for our many ministries. We pray for continued faith, and to be held in God's love. Risen Lord Jesus,

All: **Bless us all.**

Leader: Renew true humility in the leaders of the nations. Make those in power mindful of all who depend upon their wisdom and judgment. Direct those leaders in the way of your love that they will resolve to strive for justice and peace. Risen Lord Jesus,

All: **Guide them.**

Leader: You, Lord, who love all that you have made, grant us the grace to protect the earth that you have given us for our home. Renew our will to preserve its goodness and to keep it beautiful and fruitful for those who come after us. Risen Lord Jesus,

All: **Teach us.**

Leader: Lord of all mercy, comfort those of us who doubt your saving grace, your holy presence in our lives, and your loving care for even the least of us. Cherish us as we long for your presence; fill us with your truth as we seek and search for you always. Risen Lord Jesus,

All: **Be known to us.**

Leader: Open our hearts to those who suffer from any illness of the body, mind, or spirit. Hear our prayers for those in need and for those who care for them. We pray especially today for...are there others?

The people may bring their own petitions.

Leader: Risen Lord Jesus,

All: **Care for them.**

Leader: We offer you our thanks for your many blessings, especially those given to all that we now name silently or aloud...

The people may bring their own thanksgivings.

Leader: We offer prayers for a holy and peaceful death for all nearing the end of life, especially...are there others?

The people may bring their own petitions.

Leader: We offer prayers for those who have died, especially for...are there others?

The people may bring their own petitions.

Leader: Bless and comfort all those who hold them near. Risen Lord Jesus,

All: **May all those departed rest in peace and rise in glory.**

Deacon: Lord Christ, accept our humble prayers that we offer to you in this season of glory. Fill our hearts with the faith and truth that you have made known to us in your Resurrection. Make us true Easter people, for you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God always. We pray in your most holy name.

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.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

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.

Through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. After his glorious resurrection, he openly appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended in to heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we also might be, and reign with him in glory.

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, Holy Lord (Hymnal S125)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

Presider: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith

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

Presider: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ.

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

Seed, Scattered and Sown

Seed, scat-tered and sown, wheat, gath-ered and grown,
bread, bro-ken and shared as one, the Liv-ing Bread of God.
Vine, fruit of the land, wine, work of our hands, one cup that is
shared by all; the Liv-ing Cup, the Liv-ing Bread of God.

Text: *Didache* 9, 1 Corinthians 10:16-17, Mark 4:3-6; Dan Feiten, b.1953
Tune: Dan Feiten, b.1953; keyboard arr. by Eric Gunnison, R.J. Miller
© 1987, Ekklesia Music, Inc.

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

In the Bulb, There Is a Flower

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple
 2 There's a song in ev - 'ry si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o -
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i -

tree; in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter -
 dy; there's a dawn in ev - 'ry dark - ness, bring - ing
 ty; in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our

flies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of
 hope to you and me. From the past will come the
 life, e - ter - ni - ty; in our death, a res - ur -

win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 fu - turc, what it holds, a mys - ter - y, un - re -
 rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

Words and Music: *Promise*, Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992) © 1986 Hope Publishing Co., 380 S. Main Pl., Carol Stream, IL 60186
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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider and All:

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and 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.**

BLESSING

Presider: Almighty God, who through the resurrection of Christ has given us victory, give you joy and peace and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Emmanuel! The Angels' Ancient Chorus



1 Em - man - u - el! The an - gels' an - cient cho - rus
 2 Em - man - u - el! He laid a - side his splen - dor,
 3 Em - man - u - el! This Je - sus, meek and low - ly,
 4 Em - man - u - el! Our God in us is dwell - ing,



to - day un - folds be - fore us, the fi - nal tri - umph starts.
 and par - a - dise sur - ren - dered that we might be set free.
 has made us sin - ners ho - ly, by his al - might - y blood.
 our God, with - in us, tell - ing that he has come to save.



Em - man - u - el! With - in that name a trea - sure,
 Em - man - u - el! He ris - es now vic - to - rious,
 Em - man - u - el! For - give - ness has been spo - ken,
 Em - man - u - el! The an - gels sing their sto - ry,



an - nounc - ing God's good plea - sure to dwell with - in our hearts.
 to live for - ev - er glo - rious, and reign e - ter - nal - ly.
 the king - dom now is o - pen, and we be - hold our God!
 of Christ, our hope of glo - ry, the King is ris'n to - day!

Words and Music: Betsey Mulloy © Betsey Mulloy. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

DISMISSAL

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

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

TODAY AT NATIVITY

Graduation Sunday

During & After Service – Sunday, May 17th

Parish Potluck

After Service – Sunday, May 17th

WEEKLY AT NATIVITY

Youth Faith Formation

11:15am – Sundays

Children's Worship & Response

During Service – Sundays

Community Café

5-6pm – Wednesdays

Handbell & Choir Rehearsal

5 & 6:15pm – Tuesdays

UPCOMING

Perennial Plant Sale

9am-1pm – Saturday, May 30th

