

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Worship Aid for July 12th, 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

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Liturgical Ministers

Lector: Michael Summerfield
Prayer Leader: Mary Feeney
Eucharistic Ministers: Marguerite Kirchhoff
Ushers:
Tech: Paul Brusco

Next Week: July 19th

Lector	Kate Jameson
Prayer Leader	Marguerite Kirchhoff
Eucharistic Ministers	Phyllis Rowley
Usher (x2)	Francesca Carr
Tech	Elliott Grier

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

As we begin our season after Pentecost (aka summer at Nativity), you will notice a few changes to our worship aid. We are using both the Book of Common Prayer and Enriching Our Worship, approved sources in the Episcopal Church for worship. During summer, when our choir takes a well-deserved break from leading worship, we will speak the psalm and add back in our Confession of Sin.

OPENING HYMN

O Christ, the Word Incarnate (Hymnal 632)

1 O Christ, the Word In-car-nate, O Wis-dom from on high,
 2 The Church from our dear Mas-ter re-ceived the word di-vine,
 3 O make thy Church, dear Sa-vior, a lamp of pur-est gold,
 O Truth, un-changed, un-chang-ing, O Light of our dark sky;
 and still that light is lift-ed o'er all the earth to shine.
 to bear be-fore the na-tions thy true light as of old;
 we praise thee for the ra-diance that from the scrip-ture's page,
 It is the chart and com-pass that o'er life's surg-ing sea,
 O teach thy wan-dering pil-grims by this their path to trace,
 a lan-tern to our foot-steps, shines on from age to age.
 mid mists and rocks and quick-sands, still guides, O Christ, to thee.
 till, clouds and dark-ness end-ed, they see thee face to face.

Words: William Walsham How (1823-1897), alt. Music: *Munich*, melody from *Neu-vermehrtes und zu Übung Christl. Gottseligkeit eingerichtetes Meiningsches Gesangbuch*, 1693; adapt. and harm. Felix Mendelssohn (1807-1847).

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

All: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

OPENING PRAYER

Presider: We come together this morning, O God, to remind each other
To rest for a moment at the forming edge of our lives,
To resist the headlong tumble into the next moment,
Until we claim for ourselves awareness and gratitude,
Taking the time to look into one another's faces
And see there communion:
the reflection of our own eyes.
This place of laughter and silence, memory and hope
Is hallowed by our presence together.
May we be reminded here of our highest aspirations,
And inspired to bring our gifts of love and service.
May we know again that we are not isolated beings,
But connected, through your Son and Holy Spirit,
To the universe, this community and our own selves.

All: **Amen**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (Hymnal 390, verse 4)

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -
dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with
prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his
peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

The musical score is written for four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody line and three harmony lines. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures. The piece concludes with a final cadence on the word 'him'.

Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. *Hymnal* 1940, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Lobe den Herren*, melody from *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971). Descant, Copyright © 1953, Novello and Company Limited. Used by permission.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.
O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:10-13

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 65:9-14

The psalm will be prayed responsively beginning with the pulpit side and alternating with the piano side.

9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly;

you make it very plenteous; *

the river of God is full of water.

10 You prepare the grain, *

for so you provide for the earth.

11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *

with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

12 You crown the year with your goodness, *

and your paths overflow with plenty.

13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *

and the hills be clothed with joy.

14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,

and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *

let them shout for joy and sing.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 8:1-11

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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.

Setting: South African, arr. Gobingca Mxadana © Gobingca Mxadana.
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THE GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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

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.

SERMON

The Rev. Kathleen Brusco

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: We pray today for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy,

All: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: In the Anglican Communion, we pray for Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury and for the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan. We pray for the Episcopal Church: for Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop, for Craig Loya, our Bishop of Minnesota. In this Nativity community, we ask for blessings and care for all who worship with us. We pray for Building our Future, for our tireless workers, and for our loving clergy. Guide us all in your purpose, dear Lord, that we may always answer your call. Lord in your mercy,

All: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: For the leaders of nations, and for all in authority, that you Lord will guide them into humility, wisdom, and justice. Give them eyes to see and hearts to know your love for all your children. We pray for everyone who fears authority because of race, nationality, gender, sexual orientation, or legal status. Lord, in your mercy,

All: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: For seasonable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, for this bountiful planet that God has made for us. Give us the wisdom and will to conserve our island home. Lord, in your mercy,

All: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Comfort all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your loving presence. Bring healing to those on our prayer list...are there any others?

The people may bring their own petitions.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

All: **Hear our prayer.**

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

The people may bring their own thanksgivings.

Leader: We ask for a holy and peaceful death for all whose life is ending...are there others?

The people may bring their own petitions.

Leader: And we commend to your mercy all who have died, especially...that your will for them may be fulfilled. Are there others?

The people may bring their own petitions

Leader: We pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,

All: **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon: Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth. Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage, we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. In Jesus' Name we pray.

All: **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon: Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Presider and all:

**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.**

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Spirit of the Living God

1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
2. I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
3. Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh;
4. Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love.

1. Draw it from earth; through all its puls - es move;
2. No sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
3. Teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,
4. One ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;

1. Stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
2. No an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - p'ning skies;
3. To check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh;
4. The kin - dling of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,

1. And make me love thee as I ought to love.
2. But take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
3. Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
4. My heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

Words: George Croly (1780-1860). Music: Frederick C. Atkinson (1841-1897).

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

Presider: All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout for joy:

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na, ho -
san-na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he,
bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Music: *Beneath the Tree of Life*, Marty Haugen, © 2000, 2001, GIA Publications, Inc.

Presider: Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you call a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: “Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: “Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed, and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and all:

Dying you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in Glory!

Presider: Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Presider and all:

Blessed are you now and forever. 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

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

The musical score for the Fraction Anthem is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. The key signature has four flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat, D-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart With
gift of fin - est wheat; Come give to us, O
sav - ing Lord, The bread of life to eat.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1998

Tune: BICENTENNIAL, CM with refrain; Robert E. Kreutz, 1922-1996

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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.

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 ANTHEM

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider and all:

**In deep gratitude for this moment,
this meal, and for these people,
we give ourselves to you, most holy God.
Take us out into the world,
to live as changed people
because we have shared the Living Bread
and cannot remain the same.
Ask much of us, expect much from us,
enable much by us,
encourage many through us.
May we dedicate our lives to your glory.
Amen.**

BLESSING

Presider: The Wisdom of God, the Love of God and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, and the Blessing of the Holy Trinity, Creator, Son and Holy Spirit be with you this day and always.

All: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory (Hymnal 594)



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple pour thy power;
2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as - sail his ways!
3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to thy con - trol;
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils we de - plore;



crown thine an - cient Church's sto - ry; bring her bud to glo - rious flower.
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise:
shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in things and poor in soul.
let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our glo - ry ev - er - more.



Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this
grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these
Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's
Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -



hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
days, for the liv - ing of these days.
goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969), alt. By permission of the author. Music: *Cwm Rhondda*, John Hughes (1873-1932).

DISMISSAL

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

All: Thanks be to God.

TODAY AT NATIVITY

Parish Potluck

After Service – Sunday, July 12th

Sacrament of Healing

After Service – Sunday, July 12th

WEEKLY AT NATIVITY

Youth Summer Daze

12-5pm – Wednesdays in July and August

Coffee Hour

After Service – Sundays

Community Café

5-6pm – Wednesdays

UPCOMING

Evening at Lake Nokomis

4:30-9pm – Thursday, July 23rd

Boo Bash Meeting

After Service – Sunday, August 2nd

Parish Picnic

After Service – Sunday, August 12th

