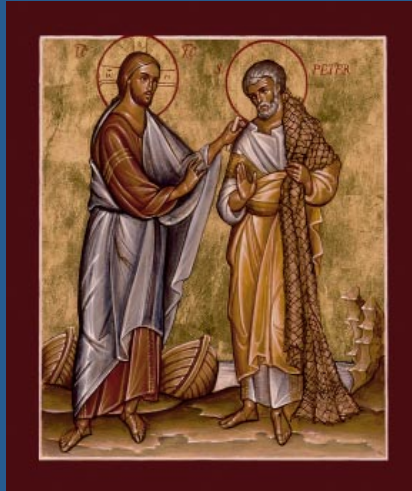


Welcome to  
The Episcopal Church of the Nativity



Organ Prelude

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

*Andante religioso*

from Organ Sonata in B-flat major op. 65



*Processional Hymn*  
*Please stand and join in singing*  
*# 410 in the blue Hymnal*

*Praise, my soul, the King of heaven*

*#410 verse 1*

*Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
to his feet thy tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed,  
restored, forgiven,  
evermore his praises sing:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise the everlasting King.*

*#410 verse 2*

Praise him for his grace and favor  
to his people in distress;  
praise him still the same as ever,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Glorious in his faithfulness.

*#410 verse 3*

Father-like, he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hand he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Widely yet his mercy flows.

*#410 verse 4*

Angels, help us to adore him;  
ye behold him face to face;  
sun and moon,  
bow down before him,  
dwellers all in time and space.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise with us the God of grace.

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

People: And blessed be his kindom, now  
and for ever. Amen.

*Celebrant:* 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.

*People:* Amen.

The children going to Children's Chapel  
come forward for a blessing.

*Please stand and join in singing  
# S278 in the beginning  
of the blue Hymnal*

Gloria in excelsis



# S278

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

# S278

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;  
receive our prayer.

# S278

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

*Celebrant:* Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*People: Amen*



*Please be seated*

## First Lesson

Jonah 3:10-4:11

*The readings are also printed in the bulletin.*

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry.

He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered.

When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the Lord said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night.

And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

The Word of the Lord.  
*People: Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 145:1-8  
BCP 801

1

I will exalt you, O God my King,  
\*

and bless your Name for ever and ever.

2

Every day will I bless you  
\*

and praise your Name for ever and ever.

3

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;

\*

there is no end to his greatness.

4

One generation shall praise your works to another

\*

and shall declare your power.

5

I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty

\*

and all your marvelous works.

6

They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts,

\*

and I will tell of your greatness.



7

They shall publish the remembrance  
of your great goodness;

\*

they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

8

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,

\*

slow to anger and of great kindness.

## Second Lesson

Philippians 1:21-27

*The readings are also printed in the bulletin.*

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you.

Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

The Word of the Lord  
People: Thanks be to God.



Sequence Hymn  
Please stand and join us in singing  
*# 694 in the blue Hymnal*

**God be in my head**

*# 694 verse 1*

God be in my head, and in my understanding;  
God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;  
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;  
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;  
God be at mine end, and at my departing.

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

*People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 20:1-16

*The readings are also printed in the bulletin.*

Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard.

When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same.

And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.'

When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage.

Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.'

But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.



The Sermon  
The Rev. Dr. Gary Nicolosi  
“Grace Isn't Fair”

The Nicene Creed  
page 358 in the Book of Common Prayer  
(Please stand)

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.

The Prayers of the People Form V

Book of Common Prayer, Page 389

*Leader:* In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying,  
“Lord, have mercy.”

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled  
with truth and love, and be found without fault at  
the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader:* For Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Kirk  
our Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and  
for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O  
Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader:* For all who love God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader:* For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader:* For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader:* For those in positions of public trust, especially Donald, our president, and Doug, our governor and all elected leaders and judges, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader:* For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer, especially for hurricane and earthquake victims, for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader:* For this parish family, especially in our time of transition. Strengthen our resolve to follow your guidance in our discernment. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church. May we show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.



*Leader:* For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader:* For all who have died in the communion of your Church, especially Mac Stanley, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader:* Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

*People:* To you, O Lord our God.

*Celebrant:* For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever.

*People:* Amen.

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Please kneel.*

*Celebrant and People:*  
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.

*Celebrant and People:*

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.

*Celebrant:*

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.

*People: Amen.*

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be  
always with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*Please share a sign of Christ's peace with  
your neighbors.*

Announcements

*Please be seated*



## Offertory Anthem

William L. Dawson (1899-1990)

“Ain’-a That Good News!”

### *verse 1*

I got a crown up in-a the Kingdom,  
Ain’-a that good news!  
I’m a-goin’ to lay down this worl’,  
Goin’-a shoulder up-uh my cross,  
Goin’-a take it home-a to my Jesus,  
Ain’-a that good news!

*verse 2*

I got a harp up in-a the Kingdom,  
Ain'-a that good news!  
I'm a-goin' to lay down this worl',  
Goin'-a shoulder up-uh my cross,  
Goin'-a take it home-a to my Jesus,  
Ain'-a that good news!

*verse 3*

I got a robe up in-a the Kingdom,  
Ain'-a that good news!  
I'm a-goin' to lay down this worl',  
Goin'-a shoulder up-uh my cross,  
Goin'-a take it home-a to my Jesus,  
Ain'-a that good news!

verse 4

I got a Saviour in-a the Kingdom,  
Ain'-a that good news!  
I'm a-goin' to lay down this worl',  
Goin'-a shoulder up-uh my cross,  
Goin'-a take it home-a to my Jesus,  
Ain'-a that good news!

*Please stand and sing as the Offering is brought  
forward*

Hymn # 380, verse 3



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen



*The Great Thanksgiving:  
Book of Common Prayer page 369*

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord  
our God.

*People:* It is right to give God thanks  
and praise.

*Celebrant:* God of all power, Ruler of the  
Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

*People:* Glory to you for ever and ever.

*Celebrant:* At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

*People:* By your will they were created and have their being.

*Celebrant:* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*People:* Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

*Celebrant:* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*People:* By his blood, he reconciled us.  
By his wounds, we are healed.

*Celebrant:* And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

*Please join in singing*  
*# S125 Sanctus in the blue Hymnal*



Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna in the highest.

*Please join in singing*  
*# S125 Sanctus in the blue Hymnal*



Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna in the highest.

*Celebrant:* And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Celebrant:* On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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.”

*Celebrant:* After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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.”

*Celebrant:* Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*People:* We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

*Celebrant:* Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal.

*Celebrant:* Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*People:* Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.



*Celebrant:* Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

*People:* AMEN.

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

*Celebrant and People:*

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.

*Please join us in singing  
# S154 Fraction Anthem  
in the blue Hymnal*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore let us keep the feast.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the people  
of God.

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion.*

*Healing prayers and prayers of Intercession are available in the Prayer Chapel during Communion.*



## Communion Music

*Alastair Longley-Cook on guitar*



Communion Hymn  
*Please join in singing  
#482 in the blue Hymnal*

Lord of all hopefulness

# 482 verse 1

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
whose trust, ever child-like,  
no cares could destroy,  
be there at our waking,  
and give us, we pray,  
your bliss in our hearts, Lord,  
at the break of the day.

# 482 verse 2

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
whose strong hands were skilled  
at the plane and the lathe,  
be there at our labors,  
and give us, we pray,  
your strength in our hearts, Lord,  
at the noon of the day.

# 482 verse 3

Lord of all kindness,  
Lord of all grace,  
your hands swift to welcome,  
your arms to embrace,  
be there at our homing,  
and give us, we pray,  
your love in our hearts, Lord,  
at the eve of the day.

# 482 verse 4

Lord of all gentleness,  
Lord of all calm,  
whose voice is contentment,  
whose presence is balm,  
be there at our sleeping,  
and give us, we pray,  
your peace in our hearts, Lord,  
at the end of the day.

*Celebrant and People:*

Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.

*Celebrant and People:*

Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Blessing*

*People: Amen.*





Recessional Hymn  
*Please stand and join in singing*  
# WLP 778

We all are one in mission

*WLP 778 verse 1*

We all are one in mission,  
we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united  
by Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single, great commission  
compels us from above  
to plan and work together  
that all may know Christ's love.

*WLP 778 verse 2*

We all are called for service  
to witness in God's name.  
Our ministries are different,  
our purpose is the same:  
to touch the lives of others  
by God's surprising grace,  
so people of all nations may feel  
God's warm embrace.

*WLP 778 verse 3*

We all behold one vision,  
a stark reality;  
the steward of salvation  
was nailed upon a tree.  
Yet resurrected Justice  
gives rise that we may share  
free reconciliation  
and hope amid despair.

WLP 778 *verse 4*

Now let us be united  
and let our song be heard.

Now let us be a vessel  
for God's redeeming Word.

We all are one in mission,  
we all are one in call,

Our varied gifts united  
by Christ, the Lord of all.

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

*People:* Thanks be to God.

# Organ Postlude

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

*Allegro con brio*

from Organ Sonata in B-flat major op. 65