

# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

22405 N. Miller Rd., Scottsdale, Arizona 85255 | [www.NativityScottsdale.org](http://www.NativityScottsdale.org) | 480-307-9216

*Our Mission: To transform lives with the love of God In Jesus Christ.*

*All are welcome! No Exceptions!*



**December 29, 2024 — The First Sunday after Christmas**

*Today's Celebrant*

Holy Eucharist Rite I - 8 am & Holy Eucharist Rite II - 10 am

The Rev. Wayne V. Whitney, PhD., Associate Rector

*All church activities may be internet streamed, video recorded, and photographed for church uses.*

*Entry on to the church campus or into any church building constitutes consent to be streamed, videotaped, or photographed for church purposes. Scent-Free Seating in the Nave - Because some folks have allergy issues, we are now a scent-free church. Please refrain from scented items such as perfume, hairspray, after-shave, body spray, hand lotion, etc. It's an act of hospitality. Thank you.*

## Acknowledgement and Thanksgiving for the Land

The Episcopal Church of the Nativity is situated on the ancestral land of the Huhugam and Salado people and present day O'odham, Yavapai, and Apache people who traveled throughout this land. We respectfully acknowledge and honor all Tribal communities - past and present - for their ongoing stewardship of this land. We commit ourselves to actively work alongside indigenous people for reconciliation and justice as we live into our Baptismal Covenant and respect the dignity of every person.

### During the 8:00 service:

Opening Hymn

Opening Acclamation Prayerbook 323

Song of Praise/The Gloria Prayerbook 324

Collect of the Day Prayerbook 161

### During the 10:00 service:

*What Child Is This* Hymnal 115

Prayerbook 355

Hymnal S280

Prayerbook 213

*Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.*

## **The Proclamation of the Word**

### **The First Lesson Isaiah 61:10-62:3**

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

**Psalm 147:13 - 21**      *Let us read it responsively by whole verse.*

13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \*  
praise your God, O Zion;

**14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
he has blessed your children within you.**

15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

**16 He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
and his word runs very swiftly.**

17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

**18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
who can stand against his cold?**

19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

**20 He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**

21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!

**Second Lesson: Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7**

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Gospel Hymn:      *Love divine, all loves excelling* Hymnal 657 (vs. 1 before the Gospel, vs. 2 after the Gospel)

## **Gospel: John 1:1-18**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Sermon: The Rev. Wayne V. Whitney, PhD., Associate Rector (*a few moments of silence follow the sermon*)

	<u>During the 8:00 service:</u>	<u>During the 10:00 service:</u>
Nicene Creed	Prayerbook 326	Prayerbook 358
Prayers of the People	Prayerbook 385	Prayerbook 385
Confession	Prayerbook 331	Prayerbook 360
The Peace		
Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Blessings		
Offering Anthem		
Doxology	Hymnal 380 vs 3 (spoken)	Hymnal 380 vs 3
The Great Thanksgiving	Prayerbook 340	Prayer B - Prayerbook 367
The Sanctus	Prayerbook 341	Hymnal S130
The Lord's Prayer	Prayerbook 336	Prayerbook 364
Breaking of the Bread	Prayerbook 337	Hymnal S154

### **The Invitation to Communion**

*All who seek God are welcome to the Lord's Table to receive the Bread and Wine of Christ's Body and Blood. Even if you do not seek God, God seeks you. For those who would like to receive a gluten-free wafer, please cross your hands palms-down. If you would prefer a blessing instead of communion, fold your arms across your chest. Healing prayers and prayers of Intercession are available during the 10 am service in the Prayer Chapel during Communion.*

	<u>During the 8:00 service:</u>	<u>During the 10:00 service:</u>
Communion Hymn		<i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i> Hymnal 112
Post-Communion Prayer	Prayerbook 339	Prayerbook 365
The Christmas Blessing		
Closing Hymn		<i>Go Tell It on the Mountain</i> Hymnal 99
The Dismissal		



*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God  
in joyous celebration of our wedding anniversary  
by Mary & Michael Carr*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Christmas Gift Drive - ENDS TODAY!**

Please join us for our annual Christmas Gift Drive. We have many families and children that will benefit from your kindness and generosity. To obtain an angel, please stop by the Christmas Tree in Christopher Hall. This year we will be collecting \$25 gift cards for groceries and necessary items (Walmart, Safeway, CVS, Target, etc.) for the Save The Family Women's and Children's Shelter. We will be collecting until Sunday, **December 29**. Thank you in advance for your generosity and kindness. If you have any questions please contact Janyce Schneider at [janycecarroll6@cox.net](mailto:janycecarroll6@cox.net) or Kathy Graf at [kgraf518@aol.com](mailto:kgraf518@aol.com).

**Women's Wine Night** - Wine Night is Thursday, **January 2**, at 5 pm at The Living Room in DC Ranch, located at the SE corner of Thompson Peak and Pima Rd (20751 N Pima Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85255). PLEASE RSVP to Kay Blinn by Wednesday noon at (316) 680-1073 or [kayblinn@gmail.com](mailto:kayblinn@gmail.com).

**Men's Pub Fellowship** - Pub Fellowship is Thursday, **January 2**, at 5 pm at Liberty Station, directly across the street from The Living Room. The address for Liberty Station is 20825 N Pima Road in DC Ranch (20751 N Pima Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85255). Please contact Bob Blinn for more information [bob@robertblinn.com](mailto:bob@robertblinn.com).

Church Office Hours 8 am -- 2 pm - Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays  
Office closed December 26 and the week of December 30  
Office Hours resume January 7