

# 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!*

## January 26, 2025 -- Third Sunday after the Epiphany



*Today's Celebrant*

Holy Eucharist Rite I - 8 am

The Rev. Scot McComas, Rector

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 service:

During the 10 service:

Opening Hymn

*O Love How Deep*

Hymnal 448 vs 1-3

Opening Acclamation

Prayerbook 323

Prayerbook 355

Song of Praise

Prayerbook 324

Hymnal S280

During the 8 service:

During the 10 service:

Collect of the Day

Prayerbook 163

Prayerbook 215

*Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## **The Proclamation of the Word**

### **First Lesson: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

**Psalm 19**      *Let us read it responsively by whole verse.*

1 The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

**2 One day tells its tale to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

3 Although they have no words or language,  
and their voices are not heard,

**4 Their sound has gone out into all lands,  
and their message to the ends of the world.**

5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun;  
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

**6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of it again;  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

7 The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;  
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

**8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;  
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever;  
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

**10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

11 By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

**12 Who can tell how often he offends?  
cleanse me from my secret faults.**

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me;  
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

**14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight,  
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

## **Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

Gospel Hymn: *Blest are the pure in heart* Hymnal 656

(vs. 1&2 before the Gospel, vs. 3&4 after the Gospel)

**Gospel: Luke 4:14-21**

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Annual Meeting Rector's Report: The Rev. Scot McComas, Rector

|   | <u>During the 8 service:</u> | <u>During the 10 service:</u>                          |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| Nicene Creed                                      | Prayerbook 326               | Prayerbook 358   |
| Prayers of the People                             | Prayerbook 383               | Prayerbook 383   |
| Confession  | Prayerbook 330               | Prayerbook 360   |
| The Peace   |                              |  |
| Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Blessings |                              |  |
| Offering Anthem                                   |                              | <i>Give Me Jesus</i> , L.L. Fleming,<br>Nativity Choir |
| Doxology  | Hymnal 380 vs 3              | Hymnal 380 vs 3  |



|                        | <u>During the 8 service:</u> | <u>During the 10 service:</u> |
|------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| The Great Thanksgiving | Prayerbook 340               | Prayer B - Prayerbook 367     |
| The Sanctus            | Prayerbook 341               | Hymnal S129                   |
| The Lord's Prayer      | Prayerbook 336               | Prayerbook 364                |
| Breaking of the Bread  | Prayerbook 337               | Hymnal S171                   |

### **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 service:</u> | <u>During the 10 service:</u>                            |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Communion Anthem      |                              | <i>Unfailing Love, Chris Tomlin</i>                      |
| Communion Hymn        |                              | <i>I Love thy Kingdom, Lord</i><br>Hymnal 524            |
| Post-Communion Prayer | Prayerbook 339               | Prayerbook 365   |
| The Epiphany Blessing |                              |  |
| Closing Hymn          |                              | <i>Spread, O Spread Thou Mighty</i><br>Hymnal 530 vs 1-3 |
| Dismissal             |                              |  |

*The altar flowers today are dedicated to the Glory of God  
in loving memory of my parents Sue and J.B. Cohea  
by Margaret Cohea*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **TODAY! - Annual Meeting**

Please join us for the 2024 Annual Meeting today at 11:30 am in the church nave. The Nominating Committee of the Vestry has interviewed a slate of candidates for the meeting and will present them. If you would like to run for Delegate to Diocesan Convention, please contact Fr. Scot. The Diocesan Convention will be October 10-11 at All Saints Episcopal Church, Phoenix.

### **Power Bible Study**

Online Sunday Morning Power Bible Study with Dr. Wayne is available every week on the Nativity Scottsdale channel on YouTube. Access all of Nativity's content on YouTube via this URL:

<https://www.youtube.com/@thenativity2006>.

### **Feed the Hungry**

Our next dinner to the East Valley Men's Center is scheduled for Tuesday, **January 28**. We will serve lasagna, garlic bread, salad, dessert and soda. Please look for the sign up sheet in Christopher Hall and enjoy an evening of doing God's work. Remember, save your receipt and you will get reimbursed. We meet at the Men's Center at 5:15pm or see Tom if you wish to car pool from the church. Serving time is 6pm and we're done by 7pm. This is a fun way to serve God's children with awesome people. Please contact Tom Hackworthy at 715-377-2411 or [thackworthy@aol.com](mailto:thackworthy@aol.com) or Kathy Hackworthy at [kathy@tsraz.com](mailto:kathy@tsraz.com).

### **Creation Care Nativity**

Creation Care Nativity has changed the date our next Adopt a Road Clean-up and has rescheduled it Saturday, **February 8** at 9 am. Nativity is the steward of Miller Rd from Deer Valley north to Pinnacle Peak. So come join us while we clean up our little corner of the world. Participants must be 13 years old.

Sign up is required: [dahartz@hotmail.com](mailto:dahartz@hotmail.com).

## **Coming Soon**

Did you know that injuries sustained from falls are one of the leading causes of hospitalization amongst seniors? The FYZICAL Therapy & Balance Center of Scottsdale, Arizona specializes in helping people to maintain their balance and prevent falls. They are coming to Nativity to give a free 90-minute workshop Friday, **February 21** at 9:30 AM. More details will follow, but attendance is limited so, if you are interested, let Jon Bost know at 602-618-6781, [jonrbost@yahoo.com](mailto:jonrbost@yahoo.com).

## **The Foster Alliance**

Our next Birthday Dreams date is Tuesday, **February 25** from 1:00-3:00 at Foster Alliance. Come join us while we shop and package birthday presents for foster care children in our community. Please email or text Haidee Williams if you can join us. 772-713-9502, [haideeonly@gmail.com](mailto:haideeonly@gmail.com).

The Foster Alliance  
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