

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

22405 N. Miller Rd., Scottsdale, Arizona 85255 | www.NativityScottsdale.org | 480-307-9216

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

All are welcome! No Exceptions!



April 19, 2026 - The Third Sunday of Easter



Today's Celebrants

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

The Rev. James Graves, Deacon

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

Song of Praise/Alleluia

Collect of the Day

Prayerbook 323

Prayerbook 356

Prayerbook 173

During the 10:00 service:

Sing Ye Faithful

Hymnal 492 vs.1, 2, 4

Prayerbook 355

Hymnal 178 vs 1-2

Prayerbook 224

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Lesson: Acts 2:14a,36-41

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

1 I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice
of my supplication, * because he has inclined
his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

2 **The cords of death entangled me;
the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
I came to grief and sorrow.**

3 Then I called upon the Name of the Lord: *
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."

10 **How shall I repay the Lord *
for all the good things he has done for me?**

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

12 **I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *
in the presence of all his people.**

13 Precious in the sight of the Lord *
is the death of his servants.

14 **O Lord, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.**

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

16 **I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *
in the presence of all his people,**

17 In the courts of the Lord'S house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah!

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 1:17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Sequence Hymn: *We know that Christ is raised* Hymnal 296
(vs. 1-2 before the Gospel, 3-4 afterwards)

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.

Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Sermon: The Rev. Scot McComas, Rector

(a few moments of silence follow the sermon)

Nicene Creed

During the 8:00 service:
Prayerbook 327

During the 10:00 service:
Prayerbook 358

Prayers of the People

(People's response: Hear our Prayer)

Leader: God of constant love, be with us now in our times of uncertainty; hear and respond to our prayers as we say Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: Grant creativity and persistence to your church and her leaders as it grapples with new ways to be community and finds new avenues and audience for its message of hope. Lord in your mercy,

Leader: Strengthen the commitment of leaders in our nation, and around the world, to make decisions that prioritize the well being and sustenance of human life and wellness. Lord in your mercy,

Leader: Help us to be the beacons of hope and agents of love to our neighbors and colleagues. Lord in your mercy,

Leader: Strengthen our resolve to push forward policies that align with your vision of our communal life and our stewardship of the natural world. Lord in your mercy,

Leader: Mend what is broken in our lives and in the world, heal what is sick. Make whole what is fractured, bring peace where there is fear or acrimony; make our world whole. Especially we ask your presence in the lives of Susie, Kevin, Kimber, Norma, Clint, Jim, Nancy, Norma, Paul, Fred, Mack, Bill, Susan, Carole and the Houshmand family. Lord in your mercy,

Leader: Welcome the dying into your loving embrace, grant them growth in the knowledge and love of you; care for those who grieve, and welcome us in our turn into the new life promised through Christ. Lord in your mercy,

Leader: Create peace around the world where conflict abides: in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and Africa; as well as in our own United States. Lord in your mercy,

Leader: In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Andrew's in Tucson. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Church of the Province of Myanmar. Lord in your mercy,

Your love for us is a magnificent gift, unearned and undeserved. Lead us to grow in our appreciation and help us to reflect that love into the world around us that we might work hand in hand in building the kingdom of God all around us with Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, One God, now and always. **Amen.**

	<u>During the 8:00 service:</u>	<u>During the 10:00 service:</u>
The Peace		
Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Blessings		
	<u>During the 8:00 service:</u>	<u>During the 10:00 service:</u>
Offering Anthem		<i>For the Beauty of the Earth,</i> Nativity Choir
Doxology		Hymnal 380 vs 3
The Great Thanksgiving	Prayerbook 340	Prayer A - Prayerbook 361
The Sanctus	Prayerbook 341	Hymnal S129
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 Anthem		<i>The Lord's Prayer,</i> Albert Hay Malotte, soloist Jenny Madruga
Chavez		
Post-Communion Prayer	Prayerbook 339	Prayerbook 365
The Easter Blessing		
Closing Hymn		<i>Christ Is Alive</i> Hymnal 182 vs. 1-3
Dismissal		

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God, in celebration of Sam's 98th birthday and Cindy and Sam's 61st wedding anniversary by Cindy Cohen



ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Mary's Food Bank - Here We Go Again! Yessiree – our mission to aid hungry people never stops. Please plan on joining us for another food pack at St. Mary's Food Bank on Saturday **April 25** from 8 to 10. The time there flies cuz we're having fun! Also, young adults over 12 can be part of the action. Let me know soon if you'll be making it. jeffjameson@cox.net/480-262-7957. P.S. New Outreach T's are available – let me know if you need one and sizes.

Arizona Lyric Theatre presents *Who Do You Say That I Am?*, a powerful new musical with libretto by Jo Taylor that brings to life the stories of women from the Bible through moving music and storytelling. Exploring themes of faith, courage, doubt, and redemption, this intimate production offers a fresh perspective on familiar figures while inviting reflection on our own spiritual journeys. Performances will be held at Saint Anthony on the Desert Episcopal Church on Friday, **April 24** at 2 pm and Saturday, **April 25** at 7 pm.

Newcomer Coffee - Join us in the chapel after church on Sunday, **May 3** for a newcomer coffee at 8:45 and 11:15 am to learn more about the ministries of Church of the Nativity.

The **Nativity Book Group** will be meeting on **May 14**, 10 am at the church. We have chosen to read *The Dovekeepers*, a novel by Alice Hoffman. Hope you have an opportunity to read the novel and join us for a lively discussion. Any questions you may contact Rubie Czerwinski at 402-578-6336 or rubiec@hotmail.com.

