

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!



May 10, 2026 - The Sixth Sunday of Easter



Today's Celebrants

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

The Rev. Scot McComas, 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: During the 10:00 service:

Opening Hymn

Alleluia! sing to Jesus
Hymnal 460 vs, 1,4,5

Opening Acclamation

Prayerbook 323

Prayerbook 355

Song of Praise/*Alleluia*

Prayerbook 356

Hymnal 178 vs 1-2

Collect of the Day

Prayerbook 174

Prayerbook 225

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Lesson: Acts 17:22-31

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.

From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’ Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Psalm 66:7-18 **Let us read it responsively by whole verse.**

7 Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;

8 Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.

9 For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

10 You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

11 You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, *
which I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.

14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.

15 I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.

16 If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;

17 But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected
my prayer, * nor withheld his love from me.

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

Gospel: John 14:15-21

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Sermon: The Rev. Scot McComas, Rector

(a few moments of silence follow the sermon)

Nicene Creed	<u>During the 8:00 service:</u> Prayerbook 327	<u>During the 10:00 service:</u> Prayerbook 358
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Prayers of the People *(People's response: Hear our Prayer)*

Let us pray for the world, saying Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy God, through the gift of your spirit we are given the ability to do what you ask of us and the desire to respond with our hearts and hands. Give each person who hears this prayer the ability to live a life of discipleship and the courage to make a difference in the world. Lord in your mercy

We pray for the health and welfare of our nation, for the health and security of all nations and for those who have the authority to bring your vision of peace, prosperity, and safety to fruition. Bless us with the will to solve problems, care for the marginalized, and improve the lives of all people. Lord in your mercy

We pray for those who are sick and for those who work to heal, that the pain and suffering of this world might be diminished. We pray especially for Susie, Kevin, Norma, Clint, Jim, Nancy, Norma, Paul, Fred, Mack, Bill, Susan, Carole, Christie, Leslie, Jennifer, the Houshmand family and the Graves family. Lord in your mercy,

We pray for those who suffer from abuse, who are not safe at home. We pray for those who have no shelter, for the hungry, the oppressed, the downtrodden and the fearful. We pray for those without hope and who are alone. We pray for those who prey on the weak, for those who seek to do harm and for those who embrace evil – that they might turn away from the darkness inside them and embrace the light of God's love. Lord in your mercy

We pray for those who have died, for those whom we remember and long to see. Give us hearts that rest in the hope of a future life lived in your presence. Lord in your mercy

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,

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Alban's in Wickenburg. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Church of Pakistan. Lord in your mercy,

Holy God you are our strength and compass. Send us your spirit, your advocate to guide us in this life and strengthen us to love and serve you through service to your people. Be present to us this day and always, as creator, redeemer, and sustainer.

Amen.

During the 8:00 service:

During the 10:00 service:

The Peace

Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

Offering Anthem

I Can Pray, Kim Culpepper,
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.

During the 8:00 service:

During the 10:00 service:

Communion Hymn

*I want walk as a child of the
light* Hymnal 490

Post-Communion Prayer

Prayerbook 339

Prayerbook 365

The Easter Blessing

Closing Hymn

*O Jesus, crowned with all
renown* Hymnal 292 vs 1-3

Dismissal

*The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God,
in joyous celebration of my grandchildren, Shayler,
Haleigh, Tyler, Tristan and David
by Kathy Crawford*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Discussion - Join us for Bible Discussion the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at Church of the Nativity. Come as you are for fellowship, open conversation, and discussion of Scripture. Bring your Bible. Bring your questions, bring a friend. Share what we understand from the readings. No expertise required, just a willing heart and all ages are welcome. For info please text or email the Rev. Dr. Suzie Chamness at (727) 549-1260 or suz61146@yahoo.com.

The **Nativity Book Group** will be meeting on **May 14**, at 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.

Celebration of Life - The Funeral for the Rev. Jim Graves will be held on Friday, **May 22** at 11 am. If you would like to help with the reception lunch after the service please contact Janyce Schneider.

Summer Schedule - Beginning **May 24** through Labor Day we will have one service at 9 am. The choir is off for the summer yet we still will have music with a few singers and our pianist Owen Williams. The Rev. Wayne Whitney, PhD will continue to hold Power Bible Study after the 9 am service during the summer.

Choir Notice - The choir will be taking a break over the summer. We have two couples who will not be returning this fall. Jeff & Gayle Jamison and Corrie & Peter Wilson, they will be missed very deeply. We are in need of choir members this fall. If you have a love for music and want to join this fabulous ministry please reach out to Tamra at Tamraduncan2@gmail.com or 480-620-4762.

Neighborhood Rides? - Would you or someone that you know like to attend services but can't drive or are not able to drive? We are considering a new program to help with transportation to and from both the 8 am service and the 10 am service and would like your input. We would gather a list of people who need transportation and match them with parishioners that are willing to provide transportation. The match would be with the same person each Sunday if possible. If interested contact Susan Reynolds at OctoberHill@octhill.com phone 925-786-4400 or Kimber V. Narusis at KimberNarusis@gmail.com phone 815-861-9340.