



# 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!*



## June 21, 2026 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

*Today's Celebrant -*

Holy Eucharist - 9 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 have created a scent-free section in the front left part of the sanctuary. Please sit in that section only if you are free of scented items such as perfume, hairspray, after-shave, body spray, hand lotion, etc. It's an act of hospitality.*

### 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.

Opening Hymn

*Glorious things of thee are spoken* Hymnal 522 vs 1,2,4

Collect of the Day

Prayerbook 230

*O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; 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: Genesis 21:8-21**

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring." So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him." Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

**Psalm Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17**      *Let us read it responsively by whole verse.*

- 1 Bow down your ear, O Lord, and answer me, \*  
for I am poor and in misery.
- 2 **Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful; \***  
**save your servant who puts his trust in you.**
- 3 Be merciful to me, O Lord, for you are my God; \*  
I call upon you all the day long.
- 4 **Gladden the soul of your servant, \***  
**for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**
- 5 For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, \*  
and great is your love toward all who call upon you.
- 6 **Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer, \***  
**and attend to the voice of my supplications.**
- 7 In the time of my trouble I will call upon you, \*  
for you will answer me.
- 8 **Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord, \***  
**nor anything like your works.**
- 9 All nations you have made will come and worship you, O Lord, \*  
and glorify your Name.
- 10 **For you are great; you do wondrous things; \***  
**and you alone are God.**
- 16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; \*  
give your strength to your servant;  
and save the child of your handmaid.
- 17 **Show me a sign of your favor,**  
**so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; \***  
**because you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.**

**Second Lesson: Romans 6:1b-11**

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Hymn: *Holy Spirit, ever living* Hymnal 511 vs. 1 before Gospel vs. 2 after the Gospel

**Gospel: Matthew 10:24-39**

Jesus said to the twelve disciples, "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

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

Nicene Creed Prayerbook 358

**Prayers of the People**

*Leader:* Hear now our prayers most Holy God and throw open the doors of our hearts as we say, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers.

*Leader:* Guide your church into courageous witness on behalf of Christ, whose example shows us the only path that can lead us away from our fears and hatred and into the glory land of love and reconciliation. Lord in your mercy,

*Leader:* Grant wisdom to leaders and open their hearts that they might in confidence and courage, make decisions that lead to mutual flourishing and true peace. Lord in your mercy,

*Leader:* Open our eyes to injustice in your midst, enliven us so that we may never become numb to the suffering of our neighbors. Lord in your mercy,

*Leader:* Grant us the perseverance and commitment to make difficult choices and to choose sustainable ways of live that honor your creation, provide safety for all people, and lead us into understanding and reconciliation. Lord in your mercy,

*Leader:* Be present and bring your healing power to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Especially for Susie, Kevin, Kimber, Norma, Clint, Jim, Nancy, Norma, Paul, Fred, Mack, Bill, Susan, Carole, Christie, Mary Ann, the Houshmand family, and the Graves family. Lord in your mercy,

*Leader:* Welcome the dying into your loving presence and grant them growth in your love. Comfort the grieving and show us how to honor the legacy of your saints and live into the promise granted us in Christ's death. 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. Peter's in Casa Grande. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Church of the Province of South East Asia. Lord in your mercy,

Open our eyes and ears to see your justice unfolding in our midst; grant us wisdom and courage to be agents of your love and fulfill our hopes as may be best for us, but always to your glory. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, our only Lord and redeemer who lives and reigns with your and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and always.

Offering Music        *Hymn of Heaven*, Phil Wickham, Logan Talarico

Communion Music    *In the Cross of Christ I glory* Hymnal 441

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



*The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God,  
in loving memory of Jim Graves,  
by his lifelong friend,  
Doug Black*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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.

**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](mailto:OctoberHill@octhill.com) phone 925-786-4400 or Kimber V. Narusis at [KimberNarusis@gmail.com](mailto:KimberNarusis@gmail.com) phone 815-861-9340.