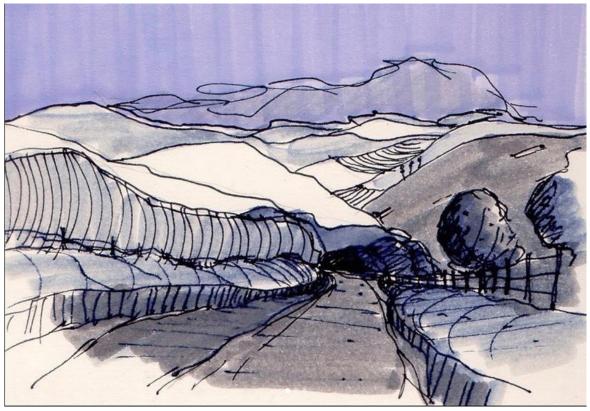
#### Order of Service for

# EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY



Mountains, Valente, Liz, 2021.

March 10, 2024 10:30 A.M.

Fourth Sunday in Lent, Year B

This service bulletin contains all that you need for our service. We invite you to participate fully in our worship. If you are unfamiliar with the ritual customs of the Episcopal Church, simply allow the congregation to carry you in worship. At times you will be invited to stand but this is only an invitation and is not required.

#### Holy Eucharist, Rite II

#### **Prelude**

Opening Hymn: Christ Is the World's True Light

Hymnal 1982, #542

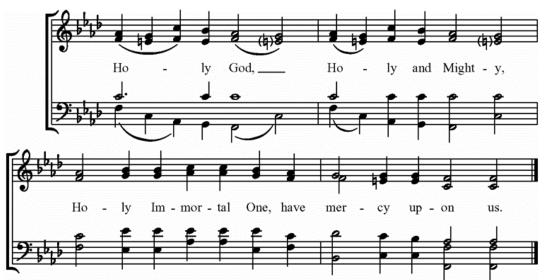


Celebrant People Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

BCP 351

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

**Trisagion:** Holy God: Trisagion (Sung three times) Enriching Our Music, #55



## **Collect of the Day**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

# First Reading Numbers 21:4-9

A reading from the Book of Numbers.

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses,

"Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

*Lector* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 107:1-3,17-22

The Refrain is sung twice before the psalm (first by the soloist then by all) and once at each place indicated in the text below.

Give thanks to the Lord, his love is ev - er - last - ing.

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, \* and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim \* that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; \* from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- 17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; \* they were afflicted because of their sins. *Refrain*
- 18 They abhorred all manner of food \* and drew near to death's door.
- 19 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, \* and he delivered them from their distress.
- 20 He sent forth his word and healed them \* and saved them from the grave.
- 21 Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy \* and the wonders he does for his children.
- 22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving \* and tell of his acts with shouts of joy. *Refrain*

#### **Second Reading**

Ephesians 2:1-10

Michel Guimont

A reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus.

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is

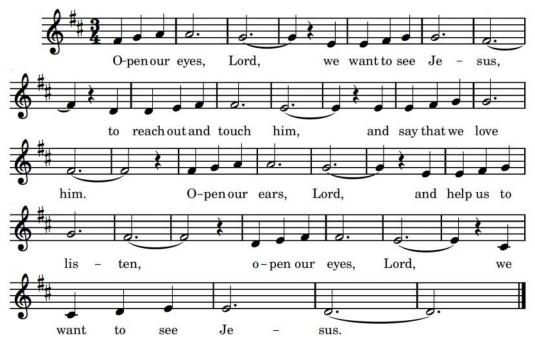
now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual: Open Our Eyes, Lord

**Bob Cull** 



**Holy Gospel** 

John 3:14-21

Celebrant

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may

not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The Gospel of the Lord. Celebrant

Praise to you, Lord Christ. People

#### Sermon

Nicene Creed BCP 358

Let us stand and confirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,

and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## The Prayers of the People Form IV

**BCP 388** 

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

#### Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

## Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

#### Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

## Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those who are on our prayer list; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

BCP 360

**BCP 361** 

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

# Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you. Celebrant

And also with you. People

## Announcements

Offertory Anthem: "This Little Light of Mine" ad. William Farley Smith

**Doxology:** Hymnal 1982 #380, Verse 3 (Old Hundredth)

**Great Thanksgiving** The Lord be with you. Celebrant

And also with you. People

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

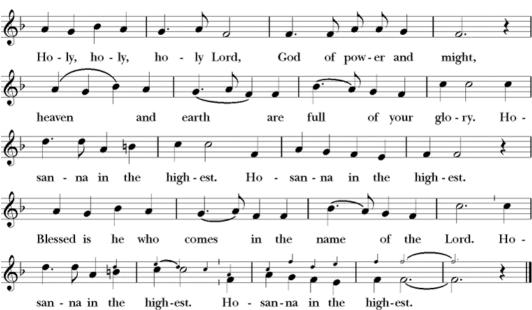
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord Hymnal 1982, #S125



Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which

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is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those

who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

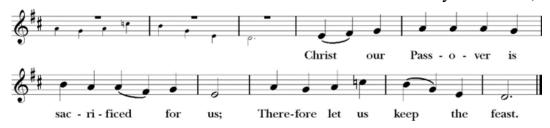
But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

And the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

Fraction Anthem: Christ Our Passover

Hymnal 1982, #S156



Communion Hymn: Bread of Heaven, on Thee We Feed

Hymnal 1982, #323



# **Post-Communion Prayer**

**BCP 365** 

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food 11

in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant gives a final blessing.





### Dismissal

Celebrant People Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

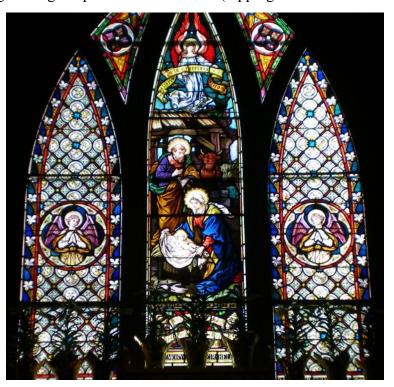
Thanks be to God.

#### **Postlude**

## Thank you for worshipping with us at Church of the Nativity this morning.

<u>Our Open Table Communion</u> is being served at the Altar, and is brought to those with limited mobility in the pews. We are using the Common Cup. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

- 1) In coming to the altar rail the ushers will indicate how many to go to the altar at a time.
- 2) At the altar rail you may stand or kneel as you prefer. To receive a gluten free wafer, place one hand palm down over the other.
- 3) When receiving from the Common Cup, please help to guide the Cup by gently holding the base of the Cup.
- 4) Those not wishing to receive the wine may cross their arms over the chest and respond to the words, the Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation, with "Amen".
- 5) We are no longer using the practice of intinction (dipping the bread into the wine).



The Church of the Nativity: feeding body, mind, and soul

Growing in our discipleship to Jesus Christ through worship, study and service

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