



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE
NATIVITY

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
MARCH 1, 2026
11:00AM

*Quiet in the nave before the service helps us to mark sacred space and time.
We invite you to use this time to prayerfully prepare for worship.
Please remember to silence your cell phone.*

Voluntary

Herzlich tut mich erfreuen

Johannes Brahms

A Penitential Order

Hymn 439, *Standing, sung by all*

What wondrous love is this WONDROUS LOVE

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures forever.**

The Confession, *Standing or kneeling*

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People **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.**

The Absolution

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

Kyrie S94, *Standing, sung by all*

Plainsong

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading, *Seated*

Genesis 12:1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 121, *Please join the choir in singing the bold portions of the Psalm*

Tone V.1



- 1 I lift up my eyes to the / hills; *
from / where is my **help** to come?
- 2 **My help comes from the / Lord, ***
the maker of / heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be / moved *
and he who watches over you / will not fall asleep.
- 4 **Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel ***
shall neither / slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The Lord himself watches / over you; *
the Lord is your / shade at your right hand,
- 6 **So that the sun shall not strike you by / day, ***
— / **nor the moon by night.**
- 7 The Lord shall preserve you from all / evil; *
it is / he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 **The Lord shall watch over your going out and your / coming in, ***
from this time / forth for evermore.

Second Reading

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 691, *Standing, sung by all*

My faith looks up to thee OLIVET

During the sequence hymn, children aged 4 through 4th grade are invited to follow the children’s cross out to Children’s Chapel.

Parents are always welcome to attend. All will return during the Peace.

The Holy Gospel

John 3:1-17

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a

teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And 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.”

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon The Rev. Michael Goldsmith

The Nicene Creed, *Standing* 358

The Prayers of the People, Form V, *Standing or kneeling* 389

The Peace, *Standing*

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem *Geistliches Lied* Brahms

Laß dich nur nichts nicht dauren mit
 Trauren, sei stille! Wie Gott es fügt, so
 sei vergnügt mein Wille.

*Let nothing afflict you with grief; be calm!
 As God ordains, so may my will be content.*

Was willst du heute sorgen auf morgen?
 Der Eine steht allem für, der gibt auch
 dir das Deine.

*Why worry today about tomorrow?
 The One is in charge, who gives also to you
 what is yours.*

Sei nur in allem Handel ohn Wandel,
 steh feste! Was Gott beschleußt, das ist
 und heißt das Beste.

*In all your doings be steadfast; stand firm!
 What God decrees is, and is acknowledged,
 the best.*

Amen.

Amen.

—Paul Flemming

Presentation Hymn 152, st. 5, *Standing, sung by all*

A LA VENUE DE NOËL

Grant, O thou blessed Trinity; grant, O unchanging Unity;
that this our fast of forty days may work our profit and thy praise!

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth ... 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 S122, *Sung by all*

Plainsong

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in
the highest.

Standing or kneeling

Celebrant 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 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:

People **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant 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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

The Lord's Prayer, *Said by all*

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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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Agnus Dei S160, *Sung by all*

Plainsong

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Invitation to Communion

Regardless of the denomination of your baptism, you are invited to receive Holy Communion in the Episcopal Church. If you would like to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. If you are interested in being baptized please speak with a clergy person after the service or contact the church office. Gluten free wafers available upon request.

Music during Communion

Lent Prose

Plainsong, Mode V

Antiphon: Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinned against thee.

To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory: lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings: listen, O Jesu, to our supplications. *Ant.* / O thou chief Corner-stone, Right Hand of the Father: Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial: cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement. *Ant.* / God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated: bow down and hearken to thy weeping children: pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses. *Ant.* / Sins oft committed now we lay before thee: with true contrition, now no more we veil them: grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution. *Ant.* / Innocent, captive, taken unresisting: falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced, save us, we pray thee, Jesu our Redeemer.
Ant.

Hymn 337

And now, O Father, mindful of the love UNDE ET MEMORES

When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are sent forth to take communion to the sick or homebound, the following is offered:

Celebrant We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

The Postcommunion Prayer, *Said by all, standing or kneeling*

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Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Hymn 473, *Standing, sung by all*

Lift high the cross CRUCIFER

The Dismissal

The Celebrant offers a dismissal followed by:

People **Thanks be to God.**

CELEBRANT The Rev. Rose Veal Eby
PREACHER The Rev. Michael Goldsmith
ASSISTING The Rev. Dr. Melissa M. Hartley
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC Dr. Aaron Tan

Lent is the most penitential season in the church calendar and is designed to help us prioritize our lives in preparation for the great feast of Easter. During this season, we will begin our services with the penitential order, highlighting for us the theme of this important season.



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