**Nativity Worships**

**Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany**

**February 16, 2025**

**The Rev. Scott Sinclair, Presiding**

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| Prelude | *Apple Tree* | by Daniel Pinkham |
| Opening | The tree of life my soul has seen | WLP 749 |
| Gradual | Christ for the word we sing!  [vv 1, 2 before the Gospel; v. 4 after Gospel] | H 537 |
| Offertory | Blest are the pure in heart | H656 |
| Communion | All my hope on God is founded  [vv. 1-3 only] | H 665 |
| Closing | We know that Christ is raised and dies no more | H 296 |
| Postlude | *The Boatman's Dance* | early 19th C, American arr: A. Copland, *alt.*F.G. |

## The Collect

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Old Testament: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals  
and make mere flesh their strength,   
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,  
whose trust is the Lord.

They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,  
and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious,  
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else;  
it is perverse--   
who can understand it?

I the Lord test the mind  
and search the heart,

to give to all according to their ways,  
according to the fruit of their doings.

## Psalm 1 *Beatus vir qui non abiit*

1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, \*  
nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, \*  
and they meditate on his law day and night.

3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; \*  
everything they do shall prosper.

4 It is not so with the wicked; \*  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, \*  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, \*  
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

## The New Testament: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ--whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

## The Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now,   
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,   
for you will laugh.

“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets."

"But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you who are full now,  
for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now,  
for you will mourn and weep.

"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

**The Prayers**

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray Churches and ministries in the San Francisco Deanery and for the Dean, the Very Rev. Dr. Cameron Partridge, and for churches and ministries in the Southern Alameda Deanery and for the Dean, the Very Rev. Jeff Dodge-Hogart.

We pray for our parish members: Members: Jamie, Nancy B, Nina A,vMarian, Norma, Duane, Amanda, Ruth, Steve K, Dick, Barbara B, Uwe and our families and friends: Myles, David, John, Violet & Aaron, B. Y., Justin, John B, Laura, Tanner, Phil, Greg, Nick, Phoebe, Seanna and Stacy.  We pray also for all those impacted by the fires in Los Angeles.  
  
We pray for those who have died and those who mourn remembering especially Bill Shepherd, Lisa, Ming Huang, Andrea Georgi, Richie Faber and those who have died in the wars in Israel, Palestine, Ukraine and Sudan and those who have died in the fires in Los Angeles.

**Announcements**

February 23rd. Discussion about the Nativity Red Door Community Garden after the 10 a.m. service. Come meet the girl scout troop that has built our garden boxes. We’ll discuss next steps for renting the boxes and nurturing the garden. Girl Scout Cookies will be for sale and we’ll do a garden blessing.

February 23rd. Nativity Movie Night 5 p.m. *Conclave.* When Cardinal Lawrence is tasked with leading one of the world's most secretive and ancient events, selecting a new Pope, he finds himself at the center of a conspiracy that could shake the very foundation of the Catholic Church.

February 28th POSTPONED. Teen Success Breakfast at Marin Community School has been postponed by the school. According to Candy Crider, our coordinator from St. Paul’s, the school has run into some issues with their federal audit. She will check back in with them on March 10th and we are hopeful that we’ll be on schedule for the March 28th Breakfast.

Please respond to the Nativity Survey. It only takes 5 minutes and will be part of Nativity Vestry’s discernment process.

<https://berkeley.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_03wc0mIVNZI69Qa>

March 2nd Pancake Sunday. We will celebrate Mardi Gras with Pancakes and Sausages, fruit and coffee. Please send a note to the office if you can volunteer to cook, set up or clean up.

March 5th Ash Wednesday Service at 12 noon. Join us for the start of a Holy Lent.

March 9th: First meeting of the Red Door Nativity Community Immigration Task Force 9:20-9:40 in Rev. Kirsten’s office.

We will with thanksgiving receive offerings of Nativity pledges and plate today. You can contribute by sending a check to the church or by using the “Give” button on our website, [www.nativityonthehill.org](http://www.nativityonthehill.org).

All who participate in this Holy Eucharist virtually receive the full benefits of the sacrament by coming with the intention of being united with Christ and one another.