**Nativity Worships**

**Seventh Easter**

**May 12, 2024**

**The Very Rev. Kirsten Snow Spalding, Presiding**

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| Prelude | *Deo gracias* | medieval English ballad melody |
| Entrance Hymn | Hail the day that sees him rise | H 214 |
| Sequence | A hymn of glory let us sing  [vv 1,2 before; v. 3 after the Gospel] | H 218 |
| Offertory Hymn | We all are one in mission | WLP 778 |
| Communion | Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord  [vv 1-2, 6-8] | H 328 |
| Closing Hymn | Alleluia! Sing to Jesus | H 460 |
| Postlude | Let it Be | Lennon/McCartney |

**The Collect**

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.*Amen.*

**The First Lesson Acts 1:15-17, 21-26**

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus-- for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us-- one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

**The Response 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 Epistle 1 John 5:9-13**

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

**The Gospel John 17:6-19**

Jesus prayed for his disciples, “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

**Prayers of the People**

We pray for our parish members: Jamie, Nancy B., Dan, Nina A., Marian, Norma, Amanda, Duane, Ruth, and Jean and our family and friends, Miles, Bill L, Kitty, Georgia, David, John, We-Zen, Jay, Sarah, Seth, Dean, Connie, Chelsea, Violet, Aaron and Hudson and the people of Palestine and Israel who are living in fear.

We pray for those who have died and those who mourn remembering especially those who have died in the wars in Israel, Palestine, Ukraine and Sudan.

**Announcements**

Save the Date **June 1, Nativity Tea.** $30 Tickets are available on the Give button on our [website.](http://www.nativityonthehill.org/) Please sign up to support the tea as a volunteer using [this form here.](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4EACAA2AA20-48899873-volunteers#/) <https://tinyurl.com/Nativitytea>

**Graduation Sunday on May 26**: If you have a graduate in your family or friend circle, please send the name, picture, school and degree and chosen charity. Nativity will make a donation to the graduate’s chosen charity. Send information to the office at nativityonthehill@gmail.com.

Join us for **Bible Study: *Acts in April (and May)*.** We’ll study ([Acts 22-29](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+22-29&version=NRSVUE)) on May 13th We’ll meet Monday at 4 p.m. in the Nativity Kitchen.

**Baptisms on Pentecost**: Please call Rev. Kirsten if you would like to prepare yourself, or a family member for Baptism on May 19th.

**Charity of the Month:** In honor of our Bishop Marc and his wife Sheila’s service of 18 years, we invite the congregation to make a donation to his scholarship fund for campers at our two Episcopal Summer Camps, Bishop’s Ranch and St. Dorothy’s Rest. Make a donation on the Nativity website or by putting cash or a check in the box at the back of the Sanctuary.

**Confirmations at Grace Cathedral, June 1st.** Call Rev. Kirsten if you would like to prepare for confirmation, reception or reaffirmation.

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.