



*With the birth of Jesus in our hearts
We carry light and love to the world*

*Sunday, October 25, 2020
21st Sunday after Pentecost*

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sunday, October 25, 2020
21st Sunday after Pentecost
Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

The Liturgy is from Setting 4, page 147, in the hymnal.

Information for the hearing impaired: Are you having difficulty hearing what is being said during our worship service? If so, try using our Assisted Hearing System, which is available from an usher.

Today's worship service will be replayed next Sunday at 6pm on FM radio station 102.9 and is available to VIEW anytime late afternoon today on the home page of our website www.nlcww.org.



INTRODUCTION

Jesus' summary of the law in today's gospel echoes our first reading from Leviticus. We are called not only to love God with heart, soul, and mind, but also to love our neighbor as ourselves. It is out of such deep care that Paul shares the gospel with the Thessalonian community. In the confession of sins, we acknowledge that we have not loved God, neighbor, and self; yet we gather to hear the word of forgiveness and to be strengthened by word and meal to be signs of God's love and mercy in the world.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

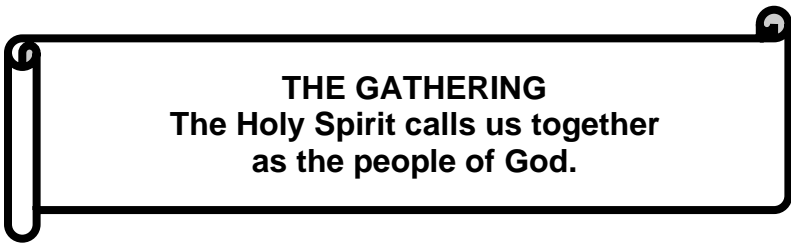
CHIMES

Indicates the start of worship

PRELUDE

Prayer of Gratitude

Sorenson



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

KYRIE ELEISON

Kyrie Eleison is a pre-Christian expression in Greek that means "Lord have mercy." When we ask for the mercy of God, we are asking for his nearness and for the necessary healing of our human brokenness.

As the Prodigal Son I come to you, merciful God. I have wasted my whole life in a foreign land; I have scattered the wealth which You gave me. Kyrie eleison, **Lord have mercy.**

Receive me in repentance, O God, and have mercy upon me. Open to me the doors of repentance, O Giver of life. Christe eleison, **Christ have mercy.**

In your compassion purify me by the loving kindness of your mercy. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. According to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. Kyrie eleison, **Lord have mercy.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Glory to God in the highest **and on earth peace, good will to all people.**

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for your great glory. Lord, King, heavenly God, Father, almighty.

Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and Holy Spirit. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, You who take away the sins of the world. Receive our prayer, You who sit at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us. For You only are holy, only You are Lord Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

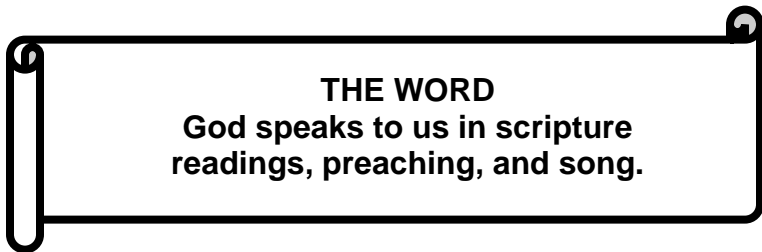
Each day I shall bless You, and I will praise your name forever and to the ages of ages.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord God, You are the holy Lawgiver, You are the Salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.



SPECIAL MUSIC

Come, Share the Lord

Leech

Soloist: Deacon Ruth Ann Hoy

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JEREMIAH 31:31, 33-34

Reader: Deacon Ruth Ann Hoy

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

¹God is our ref- | uge and strength,
a very present | help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;**

³though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of
God, the holy habitation of | the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;
God shall help it at the | break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth | melts away.**

⁷The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the |
shields with fire.

¹⁰**”Be still, then, and know that | I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the
earth.”**

¹¹The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS

3:19-25

Reader: Deacon Ruth Ann Hoy

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the

righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?" ³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Deacon Ruth Ann Hoy

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* 505
vs. 1 & 4

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper frees us from the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe, forsworn to work us woe, with guile and dreadful might is armed to wage the fight: on earth there is no equal.

- 4 God's Word shall stand above the pow'rs, shall end all their thanksgiving. The Spirit and the gifts are ours, for God with us is living. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; though all of these be gone, they yet have nothing won. The kingdom's our forever!

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Stand or sit as you desire.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

After each petition: Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on You, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be seated.



OFFERING

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, **You bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation.** Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE AND PREFACE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Form II, page 108

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us pray the prayer Christ himself taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Please be seated.

Lamb of God

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.

TABLE BLESSING

Observe a moment of silence.

Please stand as you are able.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

O God, our Life, our Strength, our Food, we give You thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give You praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



THE SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace. Amen.

SENDING SONG

We All Are One In Mission

576

vs 1 & 3

- 1 We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all. A single great commission compels us from above to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.
- 3 Now let us be united, and let our song be heard. Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming Word. We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

SENDING

People of Nativity, what is our mission?

With the birth of Jesus in our hearts we carry light and love to the world.

DISMISSAL

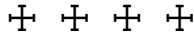
Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

To God All Praise and Glory

Wilson



NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Revelation 7:9-17	Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3	Matthew 5:1-12

PRAYERS: The list will be cleared every other week. If you wish to remain on the list for longer than two weeks, please call the office and request a long-term prayer. *In case of emergency, contact the office at **352-597-1456** and leave a detailed message. Messages are checked daily.*

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Peg Ahlquist, Windy Binns, Bob Bohn, Linda Borowski's son and family, Linda Borowski's daughter and family, Kim Bozzuto, Elliott Burger, Russ Chase, Woody and Joan Cornetta, Patti Cotter, Norma Diedrich, Judy Dietz and family, Donald Foley, Jocelyn Foudali, Jacob Abraham Foudali, Austin Garrett, Cindy Garrett, Geiser family, Irene and Larry Gilbert, Donald Haig, Irma Haig, William and Charlotte Hamm, Gary and Mary Heinecke, Richard and Nancy Heinecke, Zoila Herrera, Kay Hill, Bob Johnson and family, Mary Jones, Michael Koch, Alfred Korndoerfer, Carl and Asta Lundh, Claude and Germaine Major, Elaine Malone, Mary McDowall, Robert Meredith, Maria Mesko, Rich Miller,

Marianne Mock, Christopher Morman, Mark and Wayne Musarra, Sheryl O'Connor and family, Oliver family, Rosie Rosten, Mike Ruffner, Marty Salzbach, Sharon SanFilippo, Georgeann Scheidter, Margret Steffens, Keli Tedesco, Ahmec Torres, Roger Wendrzycki, West family, Janet Wilkens, Ann Wright, Laretta Z.

PRAYERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY

Nic Baker, Carlos Bayron Jr., Daniel Davis, Kyle Davis, Colton Hill, Andria T. Hook, Jonathan Hudson, Brett Johnson, Cpt. Will Lawlor, Zachary McGuire, CTT2 William Pause, Brandon Pierce, Clinton Pierce, Isaac Redmond, Andrea Roache, Joel Roberts, William Robishaw, OS2 Jordan A. Torres, Cpl. Timothy Spruytte, Chad Waldorf.



The flowers on the altar are given by:

Evelyn Galli in memory of her father, Heinz Wischniewski

Linda Rizzo in memory of her mother, Marie Bailey

ALTAR FLOWERS: *If you would like to honor someone special or commemorate a special event, please call the church office (352-597-1456) to order altar flowers. Suggested donation is \$25.00.*

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

Assisting Minister

Deacon Ruth Ann Hoy

Music Director

Donna Olsen

Scripture Reader

Deacon Ruth Ann Hoy

Altar Guild

Suzanne Chelf

Audio

Guy Peeters

Audio/Video Record

Art Alt

Gardener(s)

Ken & Carol White

Head counter this week

Barbara Crisanti

MISSION STATEMENT

**With the birth of Jesus in our hearts
we carry light and love to the world.**

OUR VALUES STATEMENT

We recognize that we are not here by chance but are gathered together to be the church of God in Christ.

We recognize that God is making us, through grace, into a Fellowship that embodies and expresses the spirit of Christ.

In this fellowship, the Bible says, "there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female, for all of us are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28). We, therefore, welcome equally all people, regardless of religious office, position, possessions, education, race, age, gender, sexual orientation, mental ability, physical ability or other distinctions. (Adopted 9/7/07)

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WEEKI WACHEE A CONGREGATION OF THE FLORIDA-BAHAMAS SYNOD OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

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Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

Deacon Charlotte Downing

Deacon Ruth Ann Hoy

Deacon Michelle Mehan-Conklin

Deacon Jack Page

Deacon Clyde Rosten

Music Director: Donna Olsen

Audio/Visual Director: Art Alt

Bell Choir Directors: Jane Henkel/Cherylann Schneider

Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m.