

Fifth Sunday in Lent

John 12: 20-33

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.



March 21, 2021

9:30 a.m.

HOLY NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

New Hope, Minnesota

www.holynativity.net



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Welcome to WORSHIP at Holy Nativity!

Holy Nativity Lutheran Church ~ 3900 Winnetka Avenue North ~ New Hope, MN 55427
Phone 763-545-1647 www.holynativity.net Email: office@holynativity.net

Our Mission & Ministry: "Grounded in Christ's love, Holy Nativity Lutheran Church is a welcoming community dedicated to helping all know God's love through worship, service, and fellowship."

Join us for Sunday worship at 9:30am on Facebook "LIVE"
at [facebook.com/holynativitynewhope!](https://facebook.com/holynativitynewhope)

Staff Members:

Rev. Jason Wahlstrom, Senior Pastor
Rev. Ashley Updegraff, Associate Pastor
Iver Hubert, Director of Music & Worship
Lisa Baker, Organist & Communications Coordinator
Kristen Chamberlain, Sunday School Director
Linda Lien, Congregational Care Coordinator & Funeral Coordinator
Wendy Grimes, Youth Ministry Associate
Tom Wiblishauser, Custodial Care & Activity Set-Up
Kara Holt, Financial Coordinator
Amy Laite, Sunday Nursery Coordinator
Tawn Hanson, Wedding Coordinator
Brittany Anderson, Director of Week-Day Childcare Center (hncccc.org)

Worship "Stream Team"

Mark Chamberlain
Andrew Kubly
Chris Daniels
Greg Eklund
Brian Hanson
Mark Eggert

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Quote: "We know the truth, not only by the reason, but also by the heart." -Blaise Pascal

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

This is a time to quietly listen, pause to pray, and reflect on why we are here.

GATHERING MUSIC *"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"* setting, Robert A. Hobby

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

P: We gather in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS (P-Pastor, C-Congregation)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen.

P: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

(silence is kept for reflection)

P: Fountain of living water,

C: pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

P: Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

C: Amen.

WE PRAISE GOD
"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"
(verses 1 & 3)

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;


the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
 the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;

a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
 the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

KYRIE – “Lord Have Mercy”

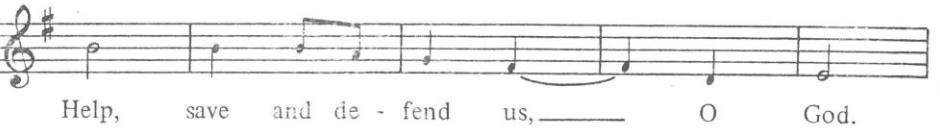
Assistant: (sings verses) In peace, in peace...

Assistant:	Congregation sings refrain:
 <p>Let us pray — to the Lord, have mer - cy, (Refrain) Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.</p>	

Assistant: For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all. Let us pray to the Lord... (Refrain repeats)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word. Let us pray to the Lord... (Refrain repeats)

Assistant:



Help, save and de - fend us, — O God.

Congregation: (sings ‘Amen’)



A - - - - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (unison) O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*As the deer panteth for the water, so my soul longeth after thee.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship thee.
You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.
You are my heart's desire and I long to worship thee.*

*You're my friend and brother, even though you are a King.
I love you more than any other, so much more than anything.
I want you more than gold or silver, only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joygiver and the apple of my eye.*

*You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship thee.*

GOD'S WORD IS READ AND PROCLAIMED

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

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. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. 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.

Reader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Words... **Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 5:5-10

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

⁵So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; ⁶as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.” ⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Words... **Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

Congregation:

Re - turn to God with all your heart, the
 Source of grace and mer - cy; Come seek the ten - der
 faith - ful - ness of God.

GOSPEL READING

John 12:20-33

Pastor: The holy gospel according to John... Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. ²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord... Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“The Days Are Surely Coming”

Rev. Jason Wahlstrom

MOMENT TO REFLECT (*We pause in silence.*)

WE RESPOND

APOSTLES' CREED

Hymnal Pg. 105

C: 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.

OFFERING/CHILDREN'S TIME

(You are invited to mail or drop off your offering, or donate online – go to our website at holynativity.net and click on "Make Donation." Thank you!)

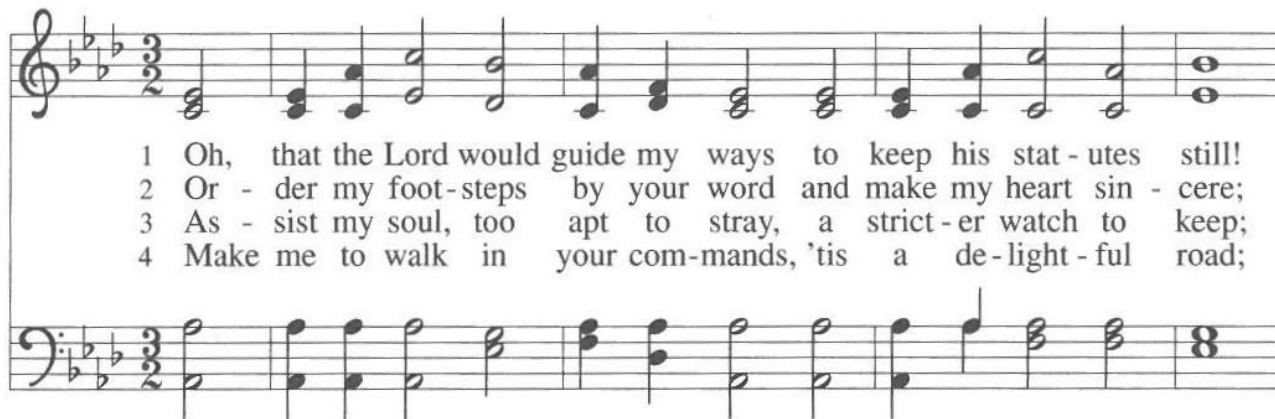
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(After each prayer petition... P: Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.)

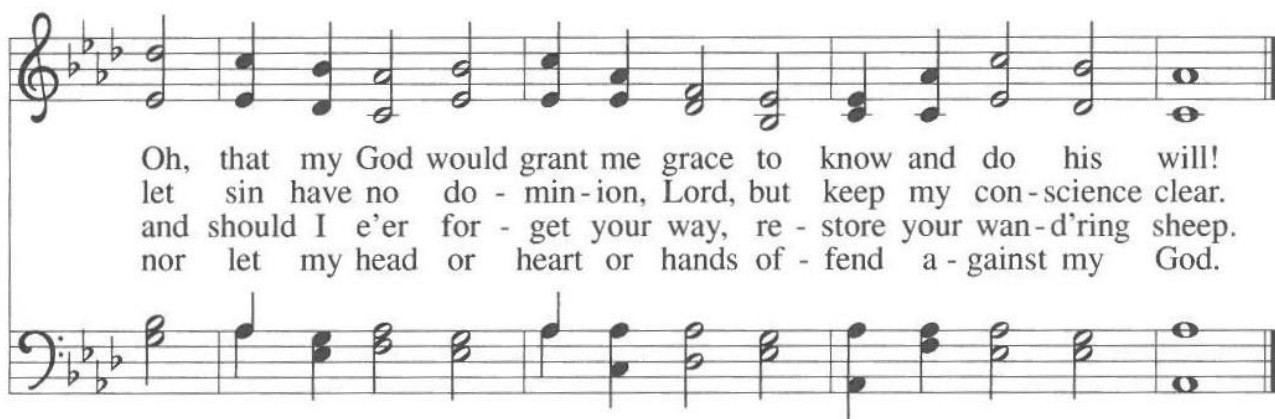
LORD'S PRAYER (unison) Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

BENEDICTION

P: Now may the light of God surround us, the love of God enfold us, and the presence of God watch over and protect us. For wherever we are, our God is also there. We close as we began, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. C: Amen



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
 2 Or - der my foot-steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'tis a de-light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
 let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
 and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep,
 nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, joined together in Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

SENDING MUSIC

"Abide with Me"

setting, Robert A. Hobby

WEEKLY INFORMATION

<p>Sunday, March 21 Fifth Sunday in Lent 9:30am Worship (online and limited in-person) 10:30am Sunday Forum (online) 10:30am Youth Forum (online) 12:00pm Word of Life Worship 6:00pm Word of Life Youth 7:00pm High School Forum (online)</p>	<p>Thursday, March 25 Office Hours 9:00am – 3:00pm 12:00pm Bible Study (online) 7:00pm Word of Life Worship</p>
<p>Monday, March 22 Office Hours 9:00am – 3:00pm 5:30pm – 6:30pm Centering Prayer (on Zoom) 7:00pm Ensemble</p>	<p>Friday, March 26 Office Hours 9:00am – 1:00pm 7:00pm Word of Life Choir</p>
<p>Tuesday, March 23 Office Hours 9:00am – 3:00pm 12:00pm Sign-up for Easter Worship begins! 2:30pm Staff Meeting (on Zoom)</p>	<p>Saturday, March 27 10:00am – 12:00pm Annex reserved</p>
<p>Wednesday, March 24 Office Hours 9:00am – 3:00pm 11:15am HNCCCC Chapel 7:00pm Lenten Worship (online) – This week’s movie: “Contact” 7:30pm Youth Silent Auction Begins Online</p>	<p>Sunday, March 28 Palm Sunday & Youth Silent Auction Ends Online 9:30am Worship (online and limited in-person) 11:30am Youth Silent Auction Ends Online 1:00pm Word of Life Worship 6:00pm Word of Life Youth</p>
<p>PRISM is accepting donations Monday to Friday from 10:00am – 4:00pm. March’s Mission Offering is designated to PRISM. Part of the Minnesota Food Share, PRISM provides food, clothing, and other necessities to those who are in need.</p>	

TODAY...

Education Hour is at 10:30am:

- **Sunday School** video lessons are being posted on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mv4IANtS9Rs>.
- **Sunday Forum** - Topic is “Prophetic Intrusions and Lament video and discussion” led by Pastor Jason. The Google Meet link is <https://meet.google.com/ebn-vzej-szw>. Starts at 10:30am (or shortly after 9:30am worship).
- **Youth Forum** is online. Here is the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88430539532?pwd=Um1HK3ZrRTc1YzhsT3E0aHU0RTFkZz09>.
- Today’s **High School forum** is at 7:00pm today. Here is the link for 10th – 12th graders: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87065523270?pwd=NCtPN3JneVlVVMx5amtOU0FWaTRaZz09>.

THIS WEEK...

Our Lenten worship series “Faith and the Movies” continues through this week! Join us on Wednesday on Facebook Live as we worship together at 7:00pm. We use the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy and our focus each week has been on a movie and the themes related to faith that can be found within! This is the last week and this week’s movie is “Contact.”

Online Bible Study in March! Join us for a new online Bible Study on Thursdays from noon-1pm led by Pastor Jason. We'll meet over Zoom and have begun by studying the book of Isaiah together. Feel free to eat your lunch while we meet. No preparation is required, so please join us!

The Online Bible Study Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83344434256?pwd=ZkRyT3ZrM0I3TTUyK01hdmFPaDRoQT09>.

Calling in is also an option. Contact Pastor Jason for more information.

MORE INFORMATION...

The annual Palm Sunday Silent Auction begins March 24th! Once again, the youth of Holy Nativity will be hosting the Palm Sunday Silent Auction. A few things will look different due to the pandemic, but many things will remain the same. The auction itself will take place online starting on March 24th at with virtual bidding. You can find the items here:

<https://www.32auctions.com/PalmSunday2021> from Wednesday, March 24th at 7:30pm to Sunday, March 28th at 11:30am. Please contact Wendy Grimes (wendy.grimes@yahoo.com) with any questions.

March FoodShare! Every pound of food and all cash donations collected from March 1st through the first week of April will count toward qualifying PRISM for the extra financial reward from this yearly drive. Donate by dropping off directly at PRISM, at Holy Nativity, sending a check direct to PRISM, or online via the PRISM website. The number of families suffering food insecurity remains incredibly high and your donations are critical to meet this need. Individual donations are PRISM's single biggest source of support.

Easter Worship Information! Easter worship will be on Sunday, April 4th at 9:30am. Because COVID-positive cases have decreased below/around 3.0% in Hennepin County, and more people are receiving their immunizations, we are opening worship from 25 people to 25% capacity beginning on Easter. As a result, 75 people will be able to sign up. (There will also be approximately 10 worship leaders so the total will be around 85.) Here are some details:

- **You can sign up for Easter in-person worship beginning on TUESDAY, MARCH 23rd at 12:00 NOON.** All 75 spots will be open until filled. The link will be the same as before: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050b48afad2ca3f49-inperson>. If you don't have Internet access, you may call the church office at 763-545-1647 starting at the same time, and we will sign you up.
- Masks and social distancing will be required. There will be singing during worship, and options for participating in communion.
- Worship will also continue to be on Facebook Live as it has been. Thank you to Mark Chamberlain and the Holy Nativity "Stream Team" for all their amazing work on this!
- Each Tuesday at 12:00 NOON we will open another Sunday for signing up. We will follow the COVID positivity rate for Hennepin county and adjust as needed.

We have been enjoying having people in worship in-person again and look forward to seeing even more of you again soon!

Gardeners needed! There are two opportunities at Holy Nativity to share and use your skills and love of gardening:

1. Columbarium care- includes spring and fall cleanup, watering, weeding fertilizing and trimming on a regular schedule of area surrounding columbarium. Keep planter filled with flowers appropriate for each season. The purpose is to have the area an inviting place for families to visit cremains of loved ones, as well as, church members to enjoy the quiet and serene beauty. Work from Easter through Christmas. 3 – 5 people needed.

2. Front door/parking lot entry pots- 3 pots need seasonal decorating, watering and upkeep on a regular schedule (primarily during the growing season). Work from Easter through Christmas. 3-5 people needed.

Please contact Karen Gaasland at 763-360-8446 for more information.

Thank you for your continued financial support! During this time of online worship, there are still many ways you can financially support Holy Nativity!

1. **Mail your offering** (you may use your offering envelopes or mail checks to us at Holy Nativity, 3900 Winnetka Avenue N, New Hope, MN 55427).
2. **Give online** via [our link](#). Or just go to our website at holynativity.net and click on “Make Donation.”
3. **Ask the office to send you a Simply Giving form** for automatic withdrawals.

Thrivent members! Have you directed all your 2020 Thrivent Choice dollars to Holy Nativity? Thrivent members can still direct funds earned last year through March 31, 2021. To see if you have any 2020 dollars remaining, visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice online, or call **800-847-4836** and when prompted say "Thrivent Choice." Holy Nativity appreciates your support!

*Cantor: Kari Johnson
Scripture Reader: Nancy Hanson*

*People & needs to keep in your prayers this week:
Geri Lingen, John Lingen, Michelle Hanson.*

*If you have a prayer request or update, or wish to be added to our prayer group,
please contact the church office at 763-545-1647 or office@holynativity.net.*