

# Episcopal Church of the Nativity

Sunday, May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Rev. Scott G. Sinclair, Presiding & The Rev. Rebecca Morehouse, Deacon

|                       |                               |                                  |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Opening Hymn          | “Jerusalem, My Happy Home”    | <a href="#">Hymn #620v1,2,5</a>  |
| Gloria                |                               | <a href="#">BCP p. 356</a>       |
| Collect for the Day   |                               | Service Leaflet                  |
| First Reading         | Acts 7:55-60                  | Service Leaflet                  |
| Psalm                 | Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16           | Service Leaflet                  |
| Second Reading        | 1 Peter 2:2-10                | Service Leaflet                  |
| Gospel Reading        | John 14:1-14                  | Service Leaflet                  |
| Sermon                |                               |                                  |
| Nicene Creed          |                               | <a href="#">BCP p. 358</a>       |
| Prayers of the People |                               |                                  |
| Confession of Sin     |                               | <a href="#">BCP p. 360</a>       |
| The Peace             |                               |                                  |
| Eucharistic Prayer A  |                               | <a href="#">BCP p. 361-363</a>   |
| The Lord's Prayer     |                               | <a href="#">BCP p. 364</a>       |
| The Breaking of       |                               |                                  |
| Post Communion Prayer |                               | <a href="#">BCP p. 365</a>       |
| Birthday Prayer       |                               | <a href="#">BCP p. 830</a>       |
| Blessing              |                               |                                  |
| Closing Hymn          | “O God our help in ages past” | <a href="#">Hymn #680 v1,2,6</a> |

## Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## The First Lesson

**Acts 7:55-60**

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

## Psalm

**31:1-5, 15-16**

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame; \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O LORD, O God of truth.
- 15 My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me.

## 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation

— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious;  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner”,

and

“A stone that makes them stumble,  
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,  
but now you are God's people;  
once you had not received mercy,  
but now you have received mercy.

## **The Gospel**

## **John 14:1-14**

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

## **Prayer List:**

**IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER, WE PRAY FOR GRACE CHURCH, MARTINEZ.**

**FOR OUR MEMBERS:** FOR JAMIE, NANCY B, NINA A, NORMA, DUANE, STEVE K, BARBARA B, DOYLE, DIANE, IAN, JEAN AND ROSE **AND FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY,** MILES, VIOLET & AARON, BY, PHIL, GREG, NICK, KATHIE, JOHN S, SUZIE, BILL, IVA HOLLY, LYNN , CHRIS, RUSS, KATHERINE AND ADAM..

## **Announcements**

Flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Marion Marsh Wade by Dennie Mehocich.

**Next Movie Day** is May 24, 3-5 pm. We will be featuring *Rental Family* directed by Hikari, starring Brendon Fraser.

**Flower Chart:** There are plenty of empty spaces on the Flower Chart needing volunteers.

**Installation of Rev. Kirsten Snow Spaulding** will take place on **Saturday, May 9 at 10:00am** at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Avenue, Palo Alto. Please get in touch with [Rev. Scott](#) if you'd like to carpool.

## **Charity of the Month, May 2026**

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. This May our Charity of the Month will be [Buckelew](#). Buckelew Programs is the North Bay's largest nonprofit provider of mental health and substance use treatment services, including supported housing and suicide prevention. Since 1970, thousands have turned to Buckelew to begin healing, find stability, and build more independent lives.

**The Garden** is open for business!

If you'd like to rent a garden box, it is \$50 for the year. Please contact us [here](#) if you are interested!

## **Dearest Nativity Community**

Last Sunday we enjoyed the music, drumming and singing of [Sean Potts](#), accompanied by our dearest Helen and Kelly Robinett. What a joyous sound we all made! Thank you for lending your voices and open hearts to this music and to Sean. We will be welcoming Sean back to Nativity on May 31st and June 14th. So, mark your calendars and warm up your pipes! You're in for a divine musical experience!

