

Episcopal Church of the Nativity

Sunday, July 19, 2026

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Stephen Siptroth, Preaching & Presiding

The Rev. Rebecca Morehouse, Deacon

Prelude	"Pavane in G minor"	Faure
Opening Hymn	"Christ for the world we sing"	Hymn #537 vv.1-4
Gloria		BCP p. 356
Collect for the Day		Service Leaflet
First Reading	Isaiah 44:6-8	Service Leaflet
Psalm	Psalm 86:11-17	Service Leaflet
Second Reading	Romans 8:12-25	Service Leaflet
Gospel Reading	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	Service Leaflet
Sermon		
Nicene Creed		BCP p. 358
Prayers of the People		
Confession of Sin		BCP p. 360
The Peace		
Eucharistic Prayer B		BCP p. 367-369
The Lord's Prayer		BCP p. 364
The Breaking of the Bread	"Evening Prayer"	Tschaikowsky
Post Communion Prayer		BCP p. 366
Birthday Prayer		BCP p. 830
Blessing		
Closing Hymn	"God, who stretched the Spangled heavens"	Hymn #580 vv.1&3
Postlude	"May the good lord bless And keep you"	

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Isaiah 44:6-8

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.
Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Psalm

Psalm 86:11-17

11 Teach me your way, O LORD,
and I will walk in your truth; *
knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.
12 I will thank you, O LORD my God, with all my heart, *
and glorify your Name for evermore.
13 For great is your love toward me; *
you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.
14 The arrogant rise up against me, O God,
and a band of violent men seeks my life; *
they have not set you before their eyes.
15 But you, O LORD, are gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.

17 Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; *
because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

The Second Reading

Romans 8:12-25

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30,36-43

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are

the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

Prayer List:

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER, WE PRAY FOR THOSE WORKING IN PRISON MINISTRIES ACROSS THE DIOCESE – IN COUNTY JAILS, FEDERAL PRISONS, AND THOSE ON DEATH ROW. FOR OUR MEMBERS: FOR JAMIE, NANCY B, NORMA, DUANE, STEVE K, BARBARA B, **AND FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY,** MILES, VIOLET & AARON, BY, PHIL, GREG, NICK, KATHIE, SUZIE, BILL, IVA, LYNN, CHRIS, AND RUSS. WE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF NINA ANDERSON AND JOHN S. AND COMFORT FOR THEIR FAMILIES.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senior Lunch Gathering are held on last Thursday of the month. Gather in the kitchen at noon and bring your brown bag lunch.

We welcome today The Rev. Stephen Siptroth as our Celebrant and Preacher and Enid Albedi as our Pianist.

Saturday, July 18, 11:00am Bay Forest Walk and Labyrinth Meditation at noon. Walk and meditation led by Kim Bromley.

Charity of the Month, July & August 2026 Ritter Center

August is Back to School time and since we will be worshipping at St. Pauls in August we are devoting July & August to helping school children in Marin who need a little more support. [Ritter Center](#) (formerly known as Ritter House) is one of our long-term partners and we are honored to support their back-to-school program. You can donate directly to the [Ritter Center](#) or drop a donation in the Charity of the Month box at the back of the sanctuary.

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of her husband, George, by Ruth Baney.

The Tea Party is right around the corner. **Save the date, September 12** at 2:00pm. If you can help with set-up, clean-up, cooking, or Raffle prizes – please contact Katy Kenny or Ruth Baney. They can also take reservations.

Sunday July 26, we welcome The Rev. Lynn Oldham Robinett as Preacher and Celebrant.

During August we will be worshiping with St. Paul's in San Rafael at 10:00am. Those wishing to carpool should meet at Nativity at 9:30am.

August 15, 4:00pm we will have a Pot Luck and movie from 4:00pm – 7:00pm. The movie is **The Greatest Show on Earth** and will start promptly at 5:00pm. Bring your favorite dish (hot or cold) that we all can share.