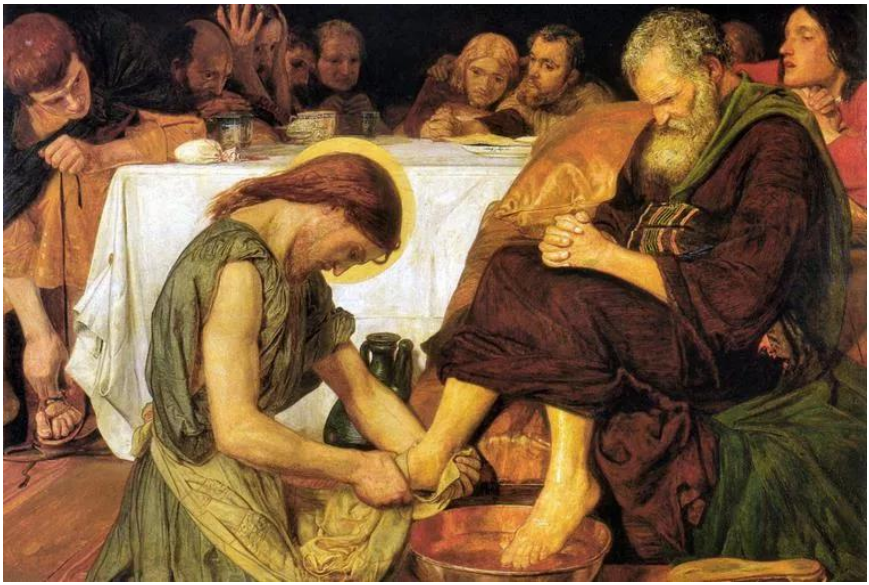
The Church of the Nativity

Ft. Oglethorpe, Georgia



("*Jesus Washing Peter's Feet*," Ford Madox Brown, oil on canvas, 1852)

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

October 25, 2026

Welcome to the Church of the Nativity.

Bishop:	The Rt. Rev. Brian Cole
Priest-in-Charge:	The Rev. Shelley Martin-Grimes
Music Director:	Jim Bailiff

Serving Today

Lector:	Jonathon Grimes
Server & Acolyte:	Angeline and Alex Swafford
Prayer Leader:	Leah Couch
Chalice Bearer:	Butch Shaver
Ushers:	Leigh Rogers and DeeAnn Schaeffer
Children's SS:	Stephanie Shell
Altar Guild:	Lisa McNeese and Leigh Rogers
Vestry on Duty:	Debbie Dodski

At the Church of the Nativity, we believe God's love is tremendously powerful, and has a profound effect on individuals, the community, and the world. Our desire is to experience and share God's love so that we may be changed and be the change in the world around us.

We gather for worship each Sunday morning at 11 a.m.
and you are invited to join us.

You are God's beloved child! Thanks be to God!

The Church of the Nativity
1201 Cross Street
Ft. Oglethorpe, GA 30742
706-866-9773 (Office)
nativityfto@gmail.com

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost October 25, 2026 11:00 a.m.

As we prepare for worship, we invite you to be aware of the presence of the Holy Spirit in this place and of the connection we share as prayerful members of the Body of Christ.

Prelude
Opening Hymn: #450 All hail the power of Jesus' Name

Presider: Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Presider: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ALL: S-280 (Service music section in the beginning of the hymnal)
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father; Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One; you alone are the Lord;
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Presider: The Lord be with you. People: **And also with you.**
Let us pray.
Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Children's Blessing and Dismissal to Sunday School

First Reading **Deuteronomy 34:1-12**

Lector: A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants'; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequaled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God.**

Response **Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17**

Lector: Let us pray a portion of Psalm 90 in unison.

Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.
You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Go back, O child of earth."
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night.

You sweep us away like a dream;
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
In the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry?
be gracious to your servants.
Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.
Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us
and the years in which we suffered adversity.
Show your servants your works
and your splendor to their children.
May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us;
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.

Second Reading **1 Thessalonians 2:1-8**

Lector: A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn: #551 Rise up, ye saints of God

Gospel Lesson **Matthew 22:34-46**

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet"'?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon: Rev. Shelley Martin-Grimes

The Creed and Prayers
Presider: Let us affirm our faith together in the words of the Nicene Creed:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
By the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate
from the Virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Leader: Prayers of the People
Jesus said, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places." Trusting in God's abundance and welcome, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all creation

Gracious God, you have made plenty good room for us in your household. Inspire your Church to be a place of welcome, generosity, and love. We thank you for the resources you have entrusted to us, and we pray for wisdom to use them in service of your mission.
People: **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer**.

Leader: God of community, you bind us together in our relationships of care and compassion. Strengthen the bonds within the congregation, and guide us to extend hospitality to our neighbors near and far.
People: **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Leader: God of abundance, you invite us to respond with gratitude for all your gifts. Bless our stewardship campaign, that our pledges of time, talent, and treasure may be faithful signs of our trust in you.
People: **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Leader: God of creation, you have made a world with plenty good room for all living things. Teach us to care for the earth and to share its resources with justice and joy.
People: **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Leader: God of mercy, your dwelling place has room for all who suffer. Be present with those who are sick, lonely, grieving, or in any kind of

need (especially…names on our parish prayer list). Surround them with your healing and with your peace.
People: **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Leader: God of hope, you prepare a place for us in your eternal home. We remember before you those who have died, confident that they now rest in your embrace (especially…names on our parish prayer list).
People: **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Presider: Loving God, you call us into your abundant life and promise that there is plenty good room for all your children. Hear our prayers and accept the offerings of our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Presider: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
All: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. People: **Amen.**

Please stand as you are comfortable and able.
Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**
The congregation offers one another a sign of peace

Announcements

Offertory

THE HOLY COMMUNION
Doxology **Praise God from whom all blessings flow,**
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heav'nly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

The people remain standing. The Presider, faces them and says:

The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Presider:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth…

After the Proper Preface, the Presider continues

…Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Presider and People S-125

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest; Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest; Hosanna in the highest.

People may stand or kneel.

Presider

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation…..

…Therefore, according to his command, O Father

Presider and People

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Presider continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this

bread and this wine….

…By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread
The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.
Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcomed with great joy to the Lord's table. To receive the bread, hold both hands over the altar rail and take the wafer. To receive the wine, either drink from the cup or dip the bread. To receive a blessing, come to the rail with both hands crossed over your chest.

Post Communion Prayer Presider: Let us pray.
Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
Be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Presider gives the blessing.

Closing Hymn: **#517 How lovely is Thy dwelling place**

The Presider says the dismissal
Presider: Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude