

The Episcopal Church of the Nativity

# Announcements

5 April 2026

**Welcome and Happy Easter!** We are so glad you are here! This morning, the Rev. Barrie Bates presides at the Eucharist. Our musician is Sal Page.

**Who Knew?** The date of Easter depends upon the Jewish Passover, which rests on a lunar calculation, since the Jewish calendar is based on the moon. In the Western church, Easter Day is the Sunday following the full moon that occurs on or after March 21, the spring equinox and the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the Jewish month Nisan. (Yes, we know: the equinox occurred this year on March 20, but the church uses the historical fixed date of March 21 regardless.) Easter Day cannot occur earlier than March 22 or later than April 25. Ascension Day is always 40 days after Easter, and Pentecost 50 days.

**Spotlight on Hymnody:** “Come, ye faithful, raise the strain” (Hymn 199) was written by St. John of Damascus in the middle of the eighth century to serve as the first ode for Low Sunday in the Greek Orthodox liturgy. It is based on the *Song of Moses* from Exodus 15 (see p.85 of the prayer book). Johnn Mason Neale authored the English translation, which uses only the first half of the ode. The tune, called ST. KEVIN, was composed Sir Arthur Sullivan, who considered himself a serious composer, even though he made most of his fame and fortune from his collaboration with W. S. Gilbert on many a comic operetta.

**Barrie will be on vacation** in Mexico until the 14<sup>th</sup>. He expects he will be accessible via e-mail, but probably not by phone.

**More to Know:** Easter is not simply one day, but a season. In previous prayer books, we referred to next week as “the First Sunday after Easter” and even “Low Sunday,” but today it is referred to as “the Second Sunday of Easter.” This joyful Eastertide is a festival of 50 days, culminating on the Day of Pentecost (which we used to call “Whitsunday”).

**The Installation of Dame Sarah Mullally** as the 106<sup>th</sup> Archbishop of Canterbury may yet be viewed on YouTube; just search for the Canterbury Cathedral channel and look for it on March 25. It is a joyous and hopeful 90 minutes, well worth your time.

Church of the Nativity, Post Office Box 228, Boyne City, Michigan 49712  
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The Rev. Dr. J. Barrington Bates, *Priest-in-Charge*

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