

The Episcopal Church of the Nativity

Announcements

13 September 2026

Welcome! This morning, the Rev. Dr. Barrie Bates presides and preaches. Our musician is Sal Page.

Spotlight on Hymnody: Tomorrow is Holy Cross Day, so today we are singing Hymn 675. The poem “Take up your cross” was written by Charles William Everest at age 19 in the 1830s. He later became an Episcopal priest in Connecticut. The English priest and liturgist Percy Dearmer once commented, “This is one of those hymns of poor quality which have to be always changed order to make them possible to use.” The text has nevertheless persevered through many a hymnal revision. (Remember Dearmer? He saw the world as “extremely beautiful, but eminently unsatisfactory.”)

Who Knew? In some churches, tomorrow’s feast is called the “Invention” of the Holy Cross—not because anybody made it up, but from the Latin, *invenio*, “I find.” In the fourth century, the Roman Emperor Constantine ordered the erection of a complex of buildings in Jerusalem “on a scale of imperial magnificence.” In the process of excavations, Helena (his mother) found a relic, believed to be that of the true cross. The buildings—on the site where the Church of the Holy Sepulchre now stands—were dedicated on 14 September 335.

Quote of the Week: “The measure of a country’s greatness is its ability to retain compassion in time of crisis.”

—Thurgood Marshall

Episcopalian and sometime Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court

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The Rev. Dr. J. Barrington Bates, *Priest-in-Charge*

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