

The Episcopal Church of the Nativity

# Announcements

26 April 2026

**Welcome and Happy Eastertide!** We are so glad you are here! This morning, the Rev. Barrie Bates presides and preaches at the Holy Eucharist. Our musician is Sal Page. If all goes according to plan, we will have communion every Sunday through October.

**Who Knew?** Today is traditionally called “Good Shepherd Sunday,” because the gospel story assigned for the Fourth Sunday of Easter always describes the shepherding aspect of Jesus’ earthly ministry. We also read Psalm 23, reminding us that though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, God is with us always. Jesus the Good Shepherd is protective, strong, and self-sacrificing for his sheep. That’s us, folks!

**Spotlight on Hymnody:** The earliest printed version of “The strife is o’er, the battle done” (Hymn 208) dates to 1695. Its authorship in Latin is unknown, and the 1861 English translation is by Francis Pott. It is paired with the tune called VICTORY, adapted by William H. Monk from a *Gloria Patri* composed by Pierluigi da Palestrina in 1591.

**Another Spotlight on Hymnody:** The hymn tune we know as the OLD HUNDREDTH (hymns 377 and 378) dates to 1560, and was once attributed to the French composer Louis Bourgeois, although there is no evidence to support this assertion. In the United States, the tune won almost universal standing for its association with the Doxology sung in many Protestant churches at the presentation of the financial offering. Nowadays, in places where there is a formal presentation of offerings (something we do not fuss about here at Nativity), the preference is for all of the offerings to be presented together: bread, wine, money, even cans of soup, diapers, or casseroles!

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

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