



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Simplified Service

26 September 2021



Called to Life — Compelled to Love



You are welcome in the worship, fellowship, and mission
of the Church of the Nativity!

We acknowledge with respect the history, spirituality, and culture
of the Indigenous peoples with whom the Upper Canada Treaties were
signed and who for centuries have offered care and
stewardship for the territory wherein our parish resides.

We seek to live up to our responsibility as Treaty members.

We are gathered on the traditional territory of several
Indigenous peoples, including the Neutrals, the Mississauga,
the Anishnaabe and the Haudenosaunee, on territory shared under
the Dish with One Spoon wampum treaty.

We also honour the heritage and gifts of Métis people.

May our actions be guided by our commitment to reconciliation.

We pray that you may find welcome, grace, and hope
in this sacred celebration.

All who seek Christ in their lives
are welcome to share in the Eucharist.

COVID-19 Precautions

Our services feel very different right now. Every parish in the diocese of Niagara is offering its in-person worship services under the guidelines and directions from the diocese and Public Health.

We ask that you keep your mask over your mouth, nose, and chin throughout your time in the building.

Please limit what surfaces you touch.

We ask that you not leave your seats except as directed; when you do, please ensure you maintain two metres of physical distance between yourself and anyone not in your bubble.

Streaming

Our 10:00am services is streamed to YouTube.

We will try to minimize your possible appearance on camera.

The beginning of the streaming will be marked with by an announcement, and then the service will continue as outlined.

Prelude

Music is offered to provide a time for quiet prayer and preparation.

A bell is rung, and we stand as we are able.

Silent Procession

One The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 and the love of God,
 and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
 be with you all.

All And also with you.

The congregation is welcomed, and the materials needed for the service briefly explained.

An Order for the Holy Eucharist (Church in Wales)

One Gracious God,

All all hearts are open to you.

No secrets are hidden from you.

**Purify us with the fire of your Holy Spirit
that we may love and worship you faithfully,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

The Collect

One Let us pray.

A short silence follows to quieten our hearts and minds together.

O God,
our guide and help in alien and contentious places:
as Esther prayed faithfully and worked courageously
for the deliverance of your people,
strengthen us to confront the oppressor
and free the oppressed,
so that all people may know
the justice and unity of your realm;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Holy Scripture

First Reading

One A reading from the book of Esther.

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, ‘What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.’

Then Queen Esther answered, ‘If I have won your favour, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.’

Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, ‘Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?’

Esther said, ‘A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!’

Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, ‘Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman’s house, fifty cubits high.’

And the king said, ‘Hang him on that.’ So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of

the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Esther 7.1—6, 9—10; 9.20—22

All Listen for the leading of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

One The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

One The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
according to Saint Mark.

All **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

One John said to him, ‘Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.’ But Jesus said, ‘Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

‘If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot

causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.,
And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

‘For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.’

Mark 9.38—50

One The Gospel of Christ.
All **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Reflection

One Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

All **Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

℣ God, in your mercy,
℞ hear our prayer.

Confession and Absolution

One God our comforter,

All like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbours as ourselves.

Amen.

One Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Peace

Please stand as you are able.

*At the current time,
we need to remain in our seats during the peace.
Waving, shimmering, bowing, speaking peace—
we'll each find our own creative ways
to share in Christ's peace without moving
or creating physical contact.*

One The peace of the Lord be always with you!

All And also with you.

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Prayer over the Gifts

One We celebrate together the gifts and grace of God.

***All* We take this bread and this wine
to follow Christ's example
and to obey his command.
Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayers (Wells & Kocher)

One May God be with you.

All And also with you.

One Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

One Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One *preface (varies week by week)*

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

One *the Eucharistic prayer continues*

One Great is the mystery of faith.

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

One *Eucharistic prayer concludes*

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

One As Jesus teaches us, let us pray in the language
and version of our comfort:

All Our Father

**in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin
against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the
power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.**

**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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.**

Amen.

We keep silent and pray for a short time.

The Breaking of the Bread

BAS, alt.

One We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**All We, being many, are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

One The gifts of God, for the people of God.

All Thanks be to God!

Communion

All who seek God and are drawn to Christ are welcome to receive the Eucharist.

During the amber stage of our pandemic response, the welcomers will tell you when to come up to our nave altar. There, you will pick up one of the wafers, and take it back to your pew to consume the eucharist. Gluten-free wafers are also on the altar.

If you prefer to receive a blessing, simply cross your hands over your chest when you go up to the nave altar, and a priest will bless you.

During the amber stage of the pandemic, only the presiding priest will consume the wine. The practice of intinction (dipping the bread into the wine) remains forbidden in the Diocese of Niagara.

The Church has long taught that receiving in only one kind—that is, receiving only the bread or only the wine—is full participation in the eucharist; when we receive in only one kind, we still receive both the body and blood of Jesus Christ.

One **Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith
into a feast of salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

All **Amen.**

The Blessing

The presider will pronounce God's blessing on the assembly.

Dismissal

One Let us bless the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

As we make our way out of the church, please be sure to maintain six feet of distance between yourself and others who are not in your immediate bubble.

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