



# Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

## Sunday Prayers

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
The Baptism of the Lord  
9 January 2022



*Called to Life — Compelled to Love*



# Prayers for the Baptism of Our Lord

*9 January 2021*

## *The Gathering*

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

**And also with you.**

## *Venite*

May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts  
and triumph over the shades of night.

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts  
and triumph over the shades of night.**

O come, let us sing to the Lord; •  
Let us shout with joy to the rock of our salvation.

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts  
and triumph over the shades of night.**

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving •  
and sing to the Lord with psalms of triumph.

For you, Lord, are a great God •  
and a great king above all gods.

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts  
and triumph over the shades of night.**

O come let us bow down and worship; •  
let us kneel before the Lord our maker.  
For the Lord is our God; •  
we are the Lord's people, the flock that God shepherds.  
**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts  
and triumph over the shades of night.**

**Glory to God, Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts  
and triumph over the shades of night.**

Blessed are you, creator of all,  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
As your dawn renews the face of the earth  
bringing light and life to all creation,  
may we rejoice in this day you have made;  
as we wake refreshed from the depths of sleep,  
open our eyes to behold your presence  
and strengthen our hands to do your will,  
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.  
Blessed be God, Source, Word, and Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## The Psalm

<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the Lord, you heavenly powers, •  
ascribe to the Lord all glory and might.

<sup>2</sup> **Ascribe due honour to God's holy name; •  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup> The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; it is the glorious God •  
who makes the thunder upon the great waters.

<sup>4</sup> **The voice of the Lord is power; •  
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**

<sup>5</sup> The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar-trees; •  
the Lord splinters the cedars of Lebanon.

<sup>6</sup> **The Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf, •  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild bull.**

<sup>7</sup> The voice of the Lord divides the lightning;  
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; •  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

<sup>8</sup> **The voice of the Lord makes the oaks to writhe, •  
and strips the forests bare,**

<sup>9</sup> while in God's temple •  
all cry, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup> **The Lord sits enthroned above the waters; •  
the Lord sits enthroned as king for ever.**

<sup>11</sup> You, Lord, will give strength to your people; •  
you will give your people the blessing of peace.

Psalm 29

**Glory to God: Source, Word, and Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever.  
Amen.**

## *The First Reading*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

*Acts 8.14—17*

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

## *The Gospel*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Saint Luke.

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

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, ‘I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’

*Luke 3.15—17, 21—22*

The gospel of Christ.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## *The Reflection*

## *The Hymn of the Day*

### **#37 We'll Sing in the Morning**

**We'll sing in the morning a song of creation  
of your breath that stirs up the waters to birth;  
and here at the fount of Christ's mercy we join you,  
co-heirs of heaven and stewards of your gracious earth.**

**We'll sing in the noontime a song of redemption:  
how Naaman was cleansed in the flow of your grace;  
how, when we were sick, in our sin you released us  
to laugh in health and dance in love before your face.**

**We'll sing in the evening a song of your pastures,  
of rivers that gladden the city of God;  
and when we arrive on the bank of our Jordan,  
you'll help us through its cold by fords your saints have trod.**

## *Thanksgiving for Holy Baptism*

I saw water flowing from the threshold of the temple.  
**Wherever the river flows everything will spring to life.**  
**Alleluia.**

On the banks of the river grow trees bearing every kind of fruit.  
**Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail.**

Their fruit will serve for food,  
their leaves for the healing of the nations.  
**For the river of the water of life**  
**flows from the throne of God and of the Lamb.**

God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life.  
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.  
**Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, O God,  
maker and ruler of all things.  
Your voice thundered over the waters at creation.  
You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys  
to refresh and satisfy all living things.

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety.  
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom.  
In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock,  
and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.

By the baptism of his death and resurrection,  
your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom.  
The floods shall not overwhelm us,  
and the deep shall not swallow us up,  
for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise.



He sends us to make disciples,  
baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit;  
wash away sin in this cleansing water;  
clothe the baptized with Christ;  
and claim your daughters and sons,  
no longer slave and free,  
no longer male and female,  
but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Let us renew our baptismal covenant.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God,  
The Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin,  
repent and return to the Lord?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons,  
loving your neighbour as yourself?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people,  
and respect the dignity of every human being?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation,  
and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

**I will, with God's help.**

Almighty God, in our baptism you have consecrated us  
to be temples of your Holy Spirit.  
May we, whom you have counted worthy,  
nurture this gift of your indwelling Spirit with a lively faith  
and worship you with upright lives;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*You are invited to dip your hands into water, and sign yourself with the cross.*

*Water is sprinkled over those physically gathered,  
and all are invited to sign themselves with the cross.*

## *The Prayers of the People*

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to  
pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

Versicle and Response:

**V** God of grace,  
**R** Your mercy is great.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God,  
we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
**Amen.**

Let us gather our prayers and praise into one  
as we pray as Jesus teaches us:

**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.  
Amen.**

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

## *The Collect*

God, your voice moves over the waters.  
Immerse us in your grace,  
mark us with your images,  
and raise us to live our baptismal vows  
empowered by the Holy Spirit  
and the example of Christ our Lord,  
in whose name we pray,  
and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## *The Blessing*

May God, who in Christ gives us  
a spring of water welling up to eternal life,  
perfect in you the image of God's glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty...

## *The Dismissal*

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



# The Church of the Nativity

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