



# Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

## Sunday Prayers

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
30 January 2022



***Called to Life — Compelled to Love***



## *Welcome & Territorial Acknowledgement*

### *The Prelude*

### *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.**

## *Confession and Forgiveness*

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,  
who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you  
and your beloved children.**

**We have turned our faces away from your glory  
when it did not appear as we expected.**

**We have rejected your word  
when it made us confront ourselves.**

**We have failed to show hospitality  
to those you called us to welcome.**

**Accept our repentance for the things we have done  
and the things we have left undone.**

**For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe  
in the glory of your Son born among us,  
and reflect your love for all creation.**

**Amen**

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.

**Amen.**

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*

In you, O Lord, I have taken refuge; •  
let me never be put to shame.

**In your righteousness, deliver me and rescue me; •  
incline your ear to me and save me.**

Be to me a rock of refuge, a fortress where I may find safety •  
for you are my rock and my stronghold.

**Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, •  
from the grasp of the unrighteous and cruel.**

For you, O Lord, are my hope: •  
my trust has been in you from the time of my youth.

**On you have I leaned since I was born;  
it is you that brought me out of my mother's womb, •  
you are the theme of my constant praise.**

*Psalm 71.1—6*

**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.**

## *The First Reading*

A reading from the first letter to the followers of Jesus in Corinth.

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

*1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13.1—13*

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.**

Then Jesus began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’ All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, ‘Is not this Joseph’s son?’ He said to them, ‘Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, “Doctor, cure yourself!” And you will say, “Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.” ’ And he said, ‘Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s home town. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up for three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.’ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

*Luke 4.21—30*

The gospel of Christ.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*The Reflection*

*Hymn of the Day*

**Where Charity and Love Prevail**

**Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;  
brought here together by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.**

**With grateful joy and holy fear his charity we learn;  
let us with heart and mind and soul now love him in return.**

**Forgive we now each other's faults as we our faults confess;  
and let us love each other well in Christian holiness.**

**Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease;  
be his the glory that we seek, be ours his holy peace.**

**Let us recall that in our midst dwells God's begotten Son;  
as members of his body joined, we are in him made one.**

**No race or creed can love exclude, if honored be God's name;  
our common life embraces all whose Father is the same.**

## 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** hear our prayer.

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,  
and pray as Jesus teaches us in the language and version of our comfort:

**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*

O God of all the prophets,  
you knew us and chose us before you formed us in the womb.  
Fill us with faith that speaks your word,  
hope that does not disappoint,  
and love that bears all things for your sake,  
until that day when we shall know you fully,  
even as we are known by you;  
through Jesus the Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## *The Blessing*

... and the blessing of God ...  
always.  
**Amen.**

## *The Dismissal*

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## *The Postlude*





# The Church of the Nativity

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