

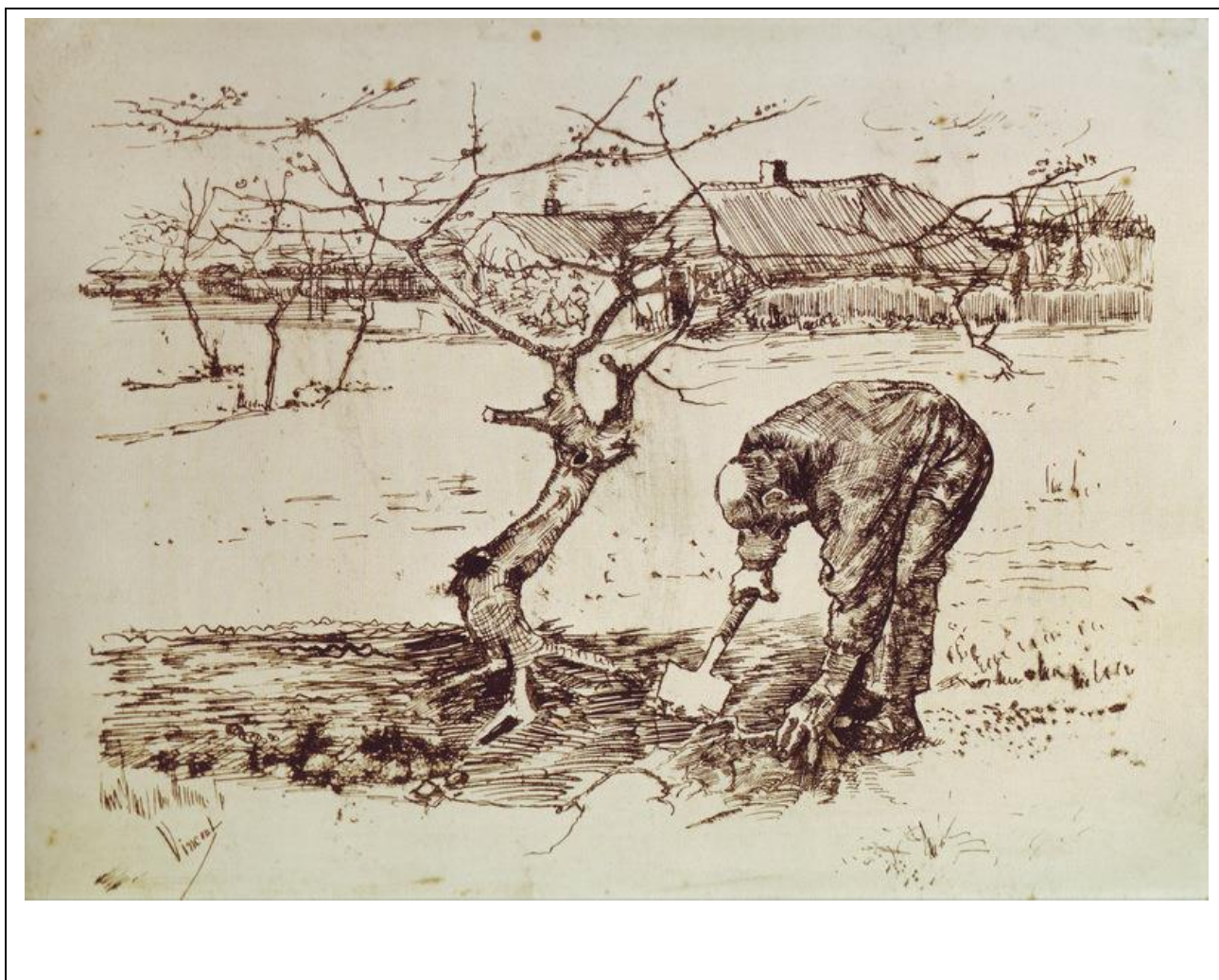


# Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

## Holy Eucharist

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent

20 March 2022



**Called to Life — Compelled to Love**



The parish of the Church of the Nativity is located on territory that has been stewarded and cared for several Indigenous peoples including the Neutrals, the Mississauga, the Anishnaabe, and the Haudenosaunee. With them, we are members of the Dish with One Spoon wampum, and we will strive to live up to our responsibility as treaty members. As we respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the nations of this place, we also honour the heritage and gifts of Métis people.

**May our actions be guided by our commitment to reconciliation.**

All are welcome in the worship and fellowship of the Church of the Nativity. May you find grace and hope in this service. All who seek Christ in their lives are welcome to share in the Eucharist.

### **COVID-19 Precautions**

Our in-person services continue to be offered under the guidelines and directions from the Diocese of Niagara and Public Health as we strive to worship and protect the health of all who attend. To help us, we ask that those attending in-person keep their masks covering their mouth, nose, and chin throughout your time in the building; that they limit what surfaces they touch; and that they not leave your seats except as directed, and maintain two metres of physical distance between themselves and others when they do move.

### **Streaming**

Our 10:00am services are streamed to YouTube. We try to minimize individuals' appearances on camera. The beginning of the streaming will be marked with by an announcement, and then the service will continue as follows.

# Gathering

Prelude

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

*A bell is rung, and the service begins.*

Silent Procession

In the name of God,  
who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.  
**Amen.**

Almighty God,  
**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.**

Confession and Absolution<sup>1</sup>

Let us admit to God the sin which always confronts us.

Holy One,  
**we confess that we have wandered far from you:**  
**we have not trusted your promises,**  
**we have ignored your prophets in our own day,**  
**we have squandered our inheritance of grace,**  
**we have failed to recognize you in our midst.**  
**Have mercy on us!**  
**Forgive us and turn us again to you.**  
**Teach us to follow in your ways,**  
**assure us again of your love,**  
**and help us to love our neighbour. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you,  
forgive you and set you free from sin,  
and keep you in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

Welcome

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.**

The Collect<sup>2</sup>

Let us pray.

God of infinite goodness,  
throughout the ages you have persevered  
in claiming and reclaiming your people.  
Renew for us your call to repentance,  
surround us with witnesses to aid us in our journey,  
and grant us the time to fashion our lives anew,  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## Holy Scripture

1<sup>st</sup> Reading

[\*Isaiah 55.1—9\*](#)

*Psalm 63.1—8 Deus, deus meus*

O God, you are my God, and earnestly will I seek you. •  
My soul thirsts for you, my body yearns for you,  
like a land that is dry and thirsty for water.

**With this longing I have come before you in the sanctuary, •  
that I may see your power and your glory.**

Your steadfast love is better than life itself; •  
therefore my lips will speak your praise.

**As long as I live, I will bless you, •  
and lift up my hands to pray in your name.**

I shall be satisfied as with a rich and sumptuous feast, •  
and my mouth shall praise you with joyful lips.

**When I remember you upon my bed, •  
and think of you in the watches of the night,**

how you have been my helper, •  
how I am safe in the shadow of your wings,  
**then my soul clings to you, •  
and your right hand upholds me.**

The Gospel

*The acclamation is sung*

**In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,  
in the Lord I will rejoice!  
Look to God, do not be afraid;  
lift up your voices, the Lord is near;  
lift up your voices, the Lord is near.**

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.**

[Luke 13.1—9](#)

The Gospel of Christ.

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

**In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,  
in the Lord I will rejoice!  
Look to God, do not be afraid;  
lift up your voices, the Lord is near;  
lift up your voices, the Lord is near.**

Homily

Affirmation of Faith<sup>4</sup>

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

Though he was divine,  
**Jesus 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

✠ Merciful God,  
✠ receive our prayer.

## The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you!  
**And also with you.**

## Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Offertory Hymn #555 O God of Bethel, by Whose Hand<sup>5</sup>

O God of Bethel, by whose hand  
thy people still are fed,  
who through this earthly pilgrimage  
thy multitudes hast led:

our vows, our prayers, we now present  
before thy throne of grace.  
God of our forebears, be the God  
of their succeeding race.

Through each perplexing path of life  
our wandering footsteps guide;  
give us each day our daily bread,  
and raiment fit provide.

O spread thy covering wings around  
till all our wanderings cease,  
and in the city of our God  
our souls arrive in peace.



Extravagant God,  
you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.  
Now we gather at your feast  
where you offer us the food that satisfies.  
Take and use what we offer here, come among us,  
and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,  
in whose name we pray  
**Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving<sup>6</sup>

May God be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to God.**

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

It is a right, and a good and joyful thing,  
to give thanks to you, Holy One on high,  
for you shaped all living beings and every wonder of creation  
to bear fruit that glorifies you.

In the soil of the covenant you planted a life  
with your chosen people and nourished a family to bless all the earth.

When through human faithfulness that life was grieved and barren,  
you sent your Son to be the soil of our redemption.

Through his resurrection you brought us  
out of the deadness of sin  
into the fullness of your fruit-bearing, fruit-sharing life.

And so we rejoice with angels and archangels  
and all the company of heaven as we join the unending hymn.

**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.**

God who summons everyone who thirsts to come and drink,  
make all who drink from this cup thirst for the wine of your kingdom.  
As we remember through this fruit of the vine your Son's saving passion,  
send your Holy Spirit to lead us into life.

By your same Spirit, bless this bread and cup  
that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,  
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,  
"Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
"Drink this, all of you: this is my blood for the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

God of all flourishing,  
through the fast of Lent nourish in your church a life that is wholly fruitful.

Give patience to all who abide  
through long seasons of barrenness and long for new life.

Tend and care for any who hunger for mercy and thirst for forgiveness.

Bless your children when they seek restored relationships  
in church and community in a spirit of humble confession.

Shape your people to hunger and thirst for the day  
when there is one shared flourishing for all,  
one feasting with you in glory,  
when with the saints, apostles, and martyrs  
your creation shall be, at last, wholly fruitful in you,

one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

### **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.**

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

We break this bread,  
**Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.  
**If we have died with Christ, we shall live with Christ.**  
**If we hold firm, we shall reign with Christ.**

Come all people: this is Christ's table to which all are invited.  
Come, for all is ready.

**Thanks be to God!**

*All who are unable to be physically present to receive the eucharist may wish to pray one of the following prayers of reception for spiritual communion.<sup>7</sup>*

I worship and adore you, Lord Jesus Christ, present in bread and wine, and present in your people, who are gathered in spirit. In this moment I join with them to receive you in my heart, and in our community. May you, enthroned on the altar, be now enthroned in my heart; may you, present in bread and wine, feed and renew my soul; may you, who gives yourself to us again, fill us with grace, and heavenly blessing. Even as I am fed, may my hunger for you and for your reign of justice and peace increase, that I may, with your Spirit, work for that day when your kingdom shall come on earth as it is heaven. Amen.

or

Come Lord Jesus and make in my heart your dwelling place and home. I seek to love you with all my heart, mind, soul and strength, and so, through your presence in bread and wine I receive you afresh and praise you for you are my God. As you fill me, so may my love for you and for all your people, rise and overflow, that with joy and thanksgiving I may serve you in the world you love. Amen.

or

Jesus, I believe that you are present with us in the sacrament of bread and wine. I love you and I desire your presence afresh in my life. Since I cannot now receive the bread and wine of the altar, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you and unite myself to you; never let me be separated from you. Amen.

## Prayer after Communion<sup>8</sup>

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and preserve you in eternal life.

Merciful God,  
accompany our journey through these forty days.  
**Renew us in the gift of baptism,  
that we may provide for those who live in poverty,  
pray for those in need,  
fast from self-indulgence,  
and find our treasure in the life of your Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## Parish Announcements

### Solemn Prayer over the People<sup>9</sup>

Let us bow down before the Lord.

Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God,  
that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore;  
through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

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**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

Verses 1, 2, 6

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:  
all ye who hear,  
brothers and sisters draw near,  
praise him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
shelters thee under his wings, yea so gently sustaineth:  
hast thou not seen  
how thy entreaties have been  
granted in what he ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!  
Let the Amen  
sound from his people again:  
gladly for aye we adore him.**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.  
**Thanks be to God!**

Postlude



# The Church of the Nativity

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*Honorary Assistant*  
*Theological Intern*  
*Director of Music*  
*Parish Administrator*

Mrs. Jan Collinson  
Mr. David Eccles  
Mr. Doug Lampman

*Wardens*

## Sources

Our cover image this day: Gogh, Vincent van, 1853-1890. In the Orchard, or, Gardener near a Gnarled Apple Tree, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55406>  
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<sup>1</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>2</sup> *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*.

<sup>3</sup> *A Liturgical Psalter*, Anglican Church of Canada

<sup>4</sup> Philippians 2.6—11, *Common Worship*. Church of England

<sup>5</sup> Text: Philip Doddridge (1702—1751). Tune: Salzburg. Music: Johann Michael Haydn (1737—1806)/

<sup>6</sup> *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

<sup>7</sup> Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

<sup>8</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>9</sup> *Book of Occasional Services*. The Episcopal Church of the United States. Rev. 2018.

<sup>10</sup> Text: Joachim Neander (1650—80), tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827—78). Tune: Lobe den Herren. Music: *Ernewerten Gesangbuch* 1655.