



# Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

## Holy Eucharist

Fifth Sunday of Easter

15 May 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 by 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.

*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. We ask that those attending in-person keep their masks covering their mouth, nose, and chin throughout their time in the building; that they limit what surfaces they touch; and that they not leave their seats except as directed, maintaining two metres of physical distance between themselves and others when they do move.

*Streaming:* Our principal services are streamed to YouTube. We try to minimize individuals' appearances on camera. The beginning of the streaming is marked with an announcement, and then the service will continue as follows.

Prelude

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

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

Processional Hymn #486

**Love Divine, All Loves Excelling<sup>1</sup>**

**Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.**

Come, almighty to deliver; let us all thy grace receive;  
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; true and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee.  
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Welcome

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

May Christ's grace and peace be with you.  
**May Christ fill our hearts with joy.**

Let us pray.<sup>2</sup>

Alpha and Omega, First and Last, glory outshining all the lights of heaven:  
pour out upon us your Spirit of faithful love and abundant compassion,  
so that we may rejoice in the splendour of your works  
while we wait in expectation  
for the new heaven and the new earth you promise  
when Christ shall come again;  
through the same Jesus the Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

# Holy Scripture

1<sup>st</sup> Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, ‘Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?’ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ‘I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, “Get up, Peter; kill and eat.” But I replied, “By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.” But a second time the voice answered from heaven, “What God has made clean, you must not call profane.” This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, “Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.” And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, “John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?’ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, ‘Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.’

*Acts 11.1—18*

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia! Praise the Lord from the heavens; •

O praise God in the heights above.

**Praise the Lord, all you angels; •**

**O praise God, all you heavenly host.**

Praise the Lord, sun and moon; •

praise God, all you shining stars.

**Praise the Lord, you highest heavens, •**

**and you waters above the heavens.**

Let them praise the name of the Lord, •

who commanded, and they were created.

**The Lord fixed them in their places for ever •**

**by a law which shall never be broken.**

Praise the Lord from the earth, •

you sea-monsters and ocean depths,

**fire and hail, snow and ice, •**

**stormy wind obeying God's word,**

all mountains and hills, •

all fruit-bearing trees and cedars,

**wild beasts and cattle, •**

**reptiles and birds on the wing,**

kings of the earth and all peoples, •

princes and all rulers of the world,

**young men and maidens, •**

**old people and children together.**

Let them praise your name, O Lord, •

for your name alone is exalted, and your glory is above heaven and earth.

**You have lifted up your people's head, with praise from all your servants, •**

**from the people close to your heart. Alleluia!**

A reading from the Revelation of Jesus Christ to John.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,  
‘See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;  
they will be his peoples,  
and God himself will be with them;  
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away.’

And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

*Revelation 21.1—6*

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The acclamation is sung*



The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

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

When Judas had gone out, Jesus said, ‘Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, “Where I am going, you cannot come.” I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’

*John 13:31—35*

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

## The Apostles' Creed

Let us join in confessing the faith of the Church.

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.**

## The Prayers of the People

✠ God, in your love,  
✠ hear our prayer.



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

## **Celebration of the Holy Eucharist**

Offertory Hymn #430

### **Will You Come and Follow Me<sup>4</sup>**

**Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?**

**Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?**

**Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?**

**Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?**

**Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

## Prayer over the Gifts

Living God,  
you gather the wolf and the lamb  
to feed together in your peaceable reign,  
and you welcome us all at your table.  
Reach out to us through this meal,  
and show us your wounded and risen body,  
that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus the Christ,  
our Saviour and Lord.

**Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving<sup>5</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 indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,  
almighty and merciful God,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;  
who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter  
and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord.

God of pow'r and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your

glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blest is the One who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might.  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

O God most mighty, O God most merciful,  
O God our rock and our salvation,  
hear us as we praise your holy Name,  
call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the world was a formless void,  
you formed order and beauty.  
When Abraham and Sarah were barren,  
you sent them a child.

When the Israelites were enslaved,  
you led them to freedom.

Ruth faced starvation,  
David fought Goliath,  
and the psalmists cried out for healing,  
and full of compassion,  
you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.  
He was born among those living in poverty,  
he lived under oppression,  
he wept over the city.

With infinite love,  
he granted the people your life.

On the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,  
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death,  
we cry out Amen.

**Amen!**

Celebrating his resurrection,  
we shout Amen.

**Amen!**

Trusting his presence in every time and place,  
we plead Amen.

**Amen!**

O God, you are Breath:  
send your Spirit on this meal.

O God, you are Bread:  
feed us with yourself.

O God, you are Wine:  
warm our hearts and make us one.

O God, you are Fire:  
transform us with hope.

O God most majestic,  
O God most motherly,  
O God our strength and our song,  
you show us a vision of a tree of life  
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.

Grant us such life,  
the life of the Father to the Son,  
the life of the Spirit of our risen Saviour,  
life in you, now and forever.



Amen. Amen. Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,  
let us 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.

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.

Takwaién:a karonhiá:ke tehsí:teron  
Aiesahsén:naien  
Aiesawenniióhstake  
Aiesawennaráhkhwake nonhwentsiá:ke  
Tsi ní:ioht né karoniá:ke tiesawennaráhkhwa  
Takwá:nont né kenwénte  
Niationnhéhkwen, nia'tewenhniserá:ke  
Sasa'nikónr:hen né ionkwarihwané:ren  
Tsi ní:ioht ní:'i tsonkwa'nikór:henhs  
Bothé:nen ionkhi'nikonhrasksá:tha nón:kwe.  
Nok tóhsa aionkwa'shén:ni né karihwané:ren  
Akwé:kon é:ren shá:wiht né io'taksens  
Asekenh í:se sáwenhk né io'taksens  
Asekenh í:se sáwenhk né kanakeráhsera'  
Ka'shatstenhsera, kaia'tanehrakwáhtshera  
Tsi nienhén:we e'thó naiá:wen

*We keep silent and pray for a short time.*

## The Breaking of the Bread

Lord, we died with you on the cross.

**Now we are raised to new life.**

We were buried in your tomb.

**Now we share in your resurrection.**

**Live in us, that we may live in you.**

## Communion

Jesus Christ, risen from the dead,  
gives everyone a place at the welcome table.  
Alleluia! Come to the feast, for all is now ready.

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

*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>6</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

We give you thanks, generous God,  
for in this bread and cup  
we have tasted the new heaven and earth  
where hunger and thirst are no more.  
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,  
that through our lives,  
all may know life in Jesus' name.  
**Amen.**

### Doxology

Generous God,  
**you have fed us at your heavenly table.**  
**Kindle us with the fire of your Spirit**  
**that when the Lord comes again**  
**we may shine as lights before him,**  
**who is alive and reigns in glory for ever.**  
**Amen.**



Blessing

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to God,  
the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in God's service,  
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

Recessional Hymn #420

**Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him<sup>7</sup>**

**Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore him; praise him, angels in the height;  
sun and moon rejoice before him; praise him, all ye stars and light!  
Praise the Lord for he hath spoken; worlds his mighty voice obeyed;  
laws which never shall be broken for their guidance hath he made.**

**Praise the Lord, for he is glorious; never shall his promise fail;  
God hath made his saints victorious; sin and death shall not prevail.  
Praise the God of our salvation! Hosts on high, his power proclaim;  
heaven and earth and all creation, laud and magnify his name.**

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve our risen Lord!  
**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

Postlude



# The Church of the Nativity

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## Sources

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<sup>1</sup> Text: Charles Wesley (1707–88). Public Domain.

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

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

<sup>4</sup> Text: John Bell (1949—). Music: Tune: Kelvingrove (trad., arr. John Bell). © 1987 WGRG The Iona Community Scotland. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

<sup>5</sup> *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

<sup>6</sup> Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

<sup>7</sup> Text: Ps. 148; para. unknown author; *Foundling Hospital Collection* (1796). Music: Henry Thomas Smart (1813—79). Public Domain. Used under OneLicense A-604280.