



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Third Sunday after Pentecost

26 June 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 #432

Jesus Calls Us! O'er the Tumult¹

Verses 1, 3, 4, & 5

**Jesus calls us! O'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea,
day by day his clear voice soundeth,
saying, "Christian, follow me!"**

**Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store;
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."**

**In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."**

**Jesus calls us! By thy mercies,
Saviour, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience,
serve and love thee best of all.**

Welcome & Collect

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.

Let us pray.²

God, you set us free in Jesus Christ
with a power greater than all that would keep us captive.
Grant that we might live gracefully in our freedom
without selfishness or arrogance,
and through love become slaves
to the freedom of the gospel for the sake of your reign;
through the same Christ Jesus
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

Amen.

Holy Scripture

1st Reading

A reading from the second book of Kings.

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, 'Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?' When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

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

Psalm 77.1—2, 11—20

Voce me ad Dominum

I will cry aloud to God;
I will cry aloud, and God will hear me.
**In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord;
my hands were stretched out by night and did not tire;
I refused to be comforted.**

I will meditate on all your acts
and ponder your mighty deeds.
Your way, O God, is holy; who is so great a god as our God?

You are the God who works wonders
and have declared your power among the peoples.
**By your strength you have redeemed your people,
the children of Jacob and Joseph.**

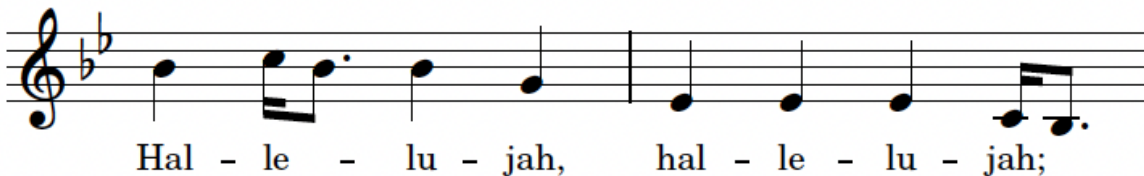
The waters saw you, O God;
the waters saw you and trembled;
the very depths were shaken.
**The clouds poured out water;
the skies thundered;
your arrows flashed to and fro;**

the sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind;
your lightnings lit up the world;
the earth trembled and shook.
**Your way was in the sea,
and your paths in the great waters,
yet your footsteps were not seen.**

You led your people like a flock
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

The Gospel

The acclamation is sung



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.** ♪

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, Jesus set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set towards Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, ‘Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?’ But he turned and rebuked them.

Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' To another he said, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.' But Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.' Another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.' Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

Luke 9.51—62

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

Affirming our Faith³

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

**We trust in God, who has created and is creating;
who came to us in Jesus,
the word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new;
who works in us and others
by the Holy Spirit.**

**We believe we are called to be God's people:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus' death and resurrection
by word and deed.**

**We live in hope
because in life, in death, in life beyond death,
we are not alone: God is with us.
Thanks be to God.
Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

✠ God of grace,
✠ hear our prayer.

Confession & Absolution⁴

Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
welcoming sinners and inviting us to this table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Merciful God,
**we confess that we have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.
Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.
When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.
Set us again on the path of life.
Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbours.
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 Peace

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 Me⁵

**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 Gifts⁶

God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest.
As we feast on your goodness,
strengthen us to labour in your field,
and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,
in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving⁷

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.

God of the whirlwind, you created all things out of nothing;
you called your chosen people out of the wilderness;
and in your Son’s dying and rising you re-created us
out of the chaos of our sin.

You passed your mantle from Elijah to Elisha,
and in the power of your Holy Spirit

you passed the mantle of Jesus
to the apostles and to your church.
So now we celebrate the call of your grace
in the company of saints and angels,
and all the chorus of heaven,
singing the hymn of your unending praise.



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est,
ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bles-sed 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 power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

God of the journey,
your Son Jesus Christ had nowhere to lay his head,
but still he sets a table in the wilderness

and meets us in the sustenance of bread and wine.
Now send down your Holy Spirit,
that in them we may find our home in you,
and that these gifts of the earth and human hands
may be for us the body and blood of your Son 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.

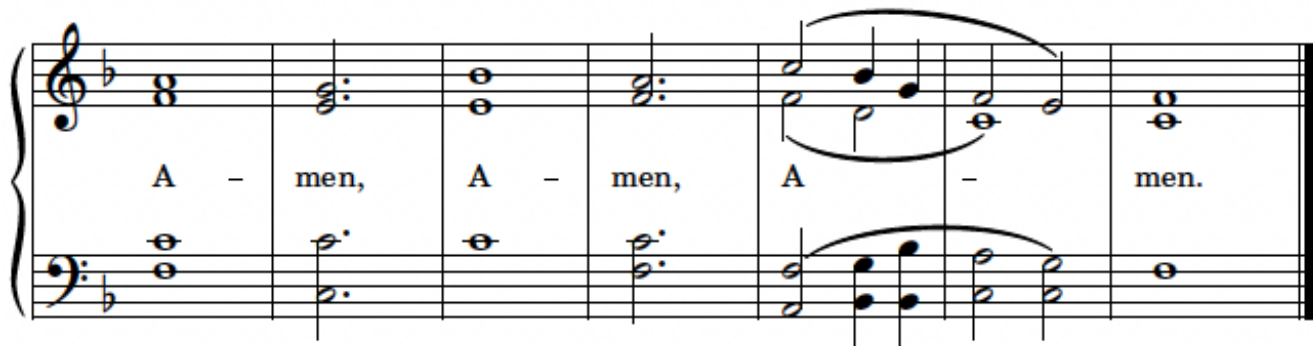
Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Ever-gracious God,
as Elisha asked Elijah for a double share of his spirit,
so now we seek a double share of your Spirit.
Fill our bodies with your heavenly food,
fill your church with truth and grace,
fill your world with righteousness and peace,
and fill your whole creation
with the praise of your glory, that
our deepest hungers may be met in you,
the deepest thirst of all who struggle through each day
may be met in the never-failing stream
of your liberating love,
until the day when we are filled forever
with the abundant fruits of your Spirit in union with Christ,

ever one God.



Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

We keep silent and pray for a short time.

The Breaking of the Bread⁸

Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat,
whose many grains we have gathered
and made into this one bread.

**So may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth
into your reign of justice and peace.**

Communion⁹

This is the table, not merely of the church, but of Christ.
It is made ready for those who love him,
and for those who want to love him more.

So come,
whether you have much faith or little;
have tried to follow, or are afraid you've failed.

Come,
because it is his will that those who want to meet him
might meet him here.

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 communion¹⁰:

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 Communion¹¹

Life-giving God, through this meal
you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy.
Now send us forth to live for others,
both friend and stranger,
that all may come to know your love.
This we pray in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

Doxology¹²

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.

Parish Announcements

Blessing

...

Amen.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah¹³

**Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.**

Dismissal

**Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!
Thanks be to God!**

Postlude



The Church of the Nativity

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The Right Reverend Susan Bell
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Honorary Assistant
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Parish Administrator

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

Wardens

Sources

Our cover image is a pen and ink sketch of Elijah under the broom tree.

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- ¹ Music: (Tune: St. Oswald), John Vacchus Dykes (1823—76) Text: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818—95). Public Domain. Used under OneLicense A-604280.
- ² *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*.
- ³ *Celebrating God’s Presence*. United Church of Canada.
- ⁴ Introduction and Absolution: *The Book of Alternative Services*. Confession: *Sundays and Seasons*.
- ⁵ Text & Music: John L. Bell (1949—). © 1987 WGRG The Iona Community. Music: (Tune: Kelvingrove). Used under OneLicense A-604280.
- ⁶ *Sundays and Seasons*.
- ⁷ Eucharistic Prayer 3 from *Enriching Our Worship*. © 1998, The Church Pension Fund.
- ⁸ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.
- ⁹ St. Benedict’s Table, Winnipeg.
- ¹⁰ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.
- ¹¹ *Sundays and Seasons*.
- ¹² *An Order for the Holy Eucharist 2004*. Church in Wales.
- ¹³ Text: William Williams (1717–91), trans. Peter Williams (1723—96). Music: (Tune: Cwm Rhondda) John Hughes (1873—1932). Used under OneLicense A-604280.