



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

24 July 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. Details about our Green Stage precautions can be found at <https://worshipwithnativity.org/what-do-worship-services-look-like-now/>

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.

Morning Has Broken¹

**Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!**

**Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.**

**Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!**

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

Provident God,
with the prayer your Son taught us always on our lips,
help us
so to seek that we may truly find,
so to ask that we may joyfully receive,
and so to knock that the door of mercy may be opened for us;
through Jesus Christ your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Holy Scripture

1st Reading

A reading from the letter to the followers of Jesus in Collossae.

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing

the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

Colossians 2.6—19

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 138

Confitebor tibi

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your love and faithfulness;

for you have glorified your name
and your word above all things.

When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

**All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

They will sing of the ways of the Lord,
that great is the glory of the Lord.

Though you are high, you care for the lowly;
you perceive the haughty from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your mighty hand shall save me.

O Lord, you will make good your purpose for me;
your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

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.** ♪

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' He

said to them, ‘When you pray, say:
Father, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Give us each day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial.’

And he said to them, ‘Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, “Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.” And he answers from within, “Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.” I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

‘So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!’

Luke 11.1—13

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

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

V God of grace,
R 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 Song #83

(from the green Songs for a Gospel People book)

Seek Ye First⁵

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and God's righteousness
and all these things will be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.**

**We do not live by bread alone, but by ev'ry word
that proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.**

**Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.**

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.

Hallowed be your name, heavenly Father,
 for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory now and forever.
 You formed a people for yourself and called them your children.
 You delivered them from evil and saved them in the time of trial.
 Once we were no people, but now we are your people,
 because in the fullness of time you sent your Son
 to forgive us our trespasses through the blood of his cross,
 and in your Holy Spirit you give us power
 to forgive those who trespass against us.
 And so we gladly praise you with your people on earth
 and all the company of heaven as we join the unending hymn.



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 blessing, you promise that as you give us our daily bread,
so shall you feed us with the bread of life for eternity.
Come down upon your church in the power of your Holy Spirit,
that as we remember your Son's saving passion and resurrection
and share this holy meal,
we may become bread for your hungry world.

Sanctify this bread and cup
that they 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 of 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.

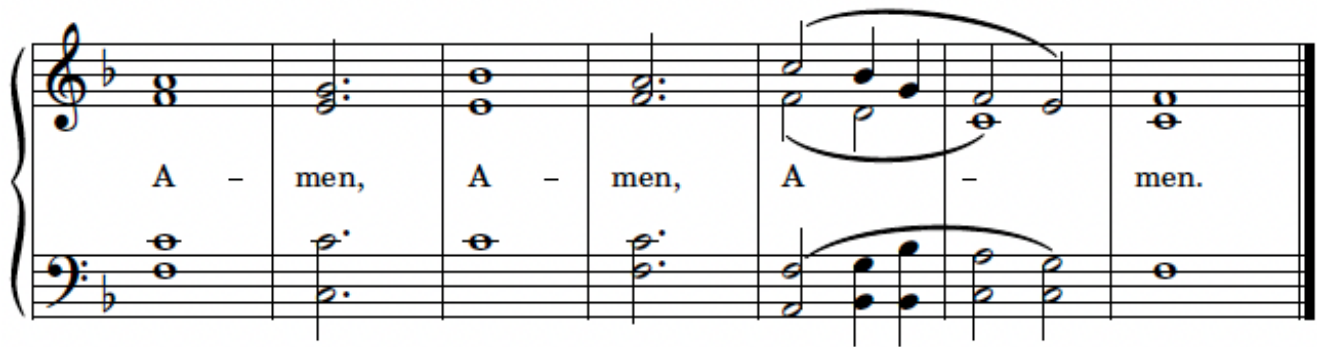
Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Giver of every good and perfect gift,
you promise that everyone who asks will receive,
everyone who seeks will find,
and to everyone who knocks the door will be opened.
Send your blessing upon those who ask for what you alone can give.
Pour your grace upon any who search and upon all who long to be found.
Give perseverance to those who knock at the door of justice.
As you dwelt bodily in your Son in all your fullness,
dwell in your church today,

that by the power of the Holy Spirit
 those who are called the children of the living God
 may know your resurrecting power,
 until the day when your kingdom comes and your will is done
 on earth as it is in heaven,
 most holy God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



Amen. Amen. Amen.

er

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.

Singing Songs of Expectation¹³

**Singing songs of expectation, onward goes the pilgrim band,
through the night of doubt and sorrow, marching to the promised land.
Clear before us through the darkness gleams and burns the guiding light:
trusting God, we march together stepping fearless through the night.**

**One the light of God's own presence, o'er his ransomed people shed,
chasing far the gloom and terror, brightening all the path we tread:
one the object of our journey, one the faith which never tires,
one the earnest looking forward, one the hope our God inspires.**

**One the strain the lips of thousands lift as from the heart of one;
one the conflict, one the peril, one the march in God begun:
one the gladness of rejoicing on the far eternal shore,
where the one almighty Father reigns in love for evermore.**

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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Wardens

Sources

Our cover image is a collage of photos taken by our rector while at the Church of the Pater Noster, on the Mount of Olives in the Holy Land. This church is said to be built in the grove where Jesus taught the disciples how to pray. The outdoor courtyards and inside the church proper are lined with plaques with the Lord's Prayer in languages from around the world. The bottom of the collage includes the plaques in English, Latin, Cree, and Ojibwe.

¹ Music: (Tune: Bunessan), Melody: Gaelic trad., arr. C. Richard Hunt (1930—) ©. Text: Eleanor Farjeon (1881–1965), © David Higham Associates Ltd. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

² from *A Prayer Book for Australia* (1995) quoted in: *Alternative RCL Collects (Final 2019)*, Anglican Church of Canada.

³ *Celebrate God's Presence* (2000). United Church of Canada.

⁴ Introduction and Absolution: *The Book of Alternative Services*. Confession: *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁵ Text & Music: Karen Lafferty, 1972, rev. © Maranatha! Music (ASCAP). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁶ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁷ *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

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: Bernard Severin Ingemann (1789—1862), tr. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834—1924), alt. Music: (Tune: Holy Manna) Melody *The Columbian Harmony*, Cincinnati, 1825. Used under OneLicense A-604280.