



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

31 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.

Stand Up and Bless the Lord¹

**Stand up and bless the Lord, you people of God's choice;
stand up and bless the Lord of hosts with heart and soul and voice.**

**Though high above all praise, above all blessing high,
who would not fear God's holy name, and laud and magnify!**

**O for the living flame from God's own altar brought,
to touch our lips, our minds inspire, and wing to heaven our thought!**

**God is our strength and song, who makes salvation ours;
then be God's love in Christ proclaimed with all our ransomed powers.**

**Stand up and bless the Lord; the Lord your God adore;
stand up and bless the glorious name henceforth for evermore.**

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

Lord of abundance,
you demand our life entire and whole:
lead us out from prisons of greed
to a place of riches uncontained and always new;
through Jesus Christ, our wealth,
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.

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

Colossians 3.1—11

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Hear this, all you peoples;
hearken, all you who dwell in the world,
you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.

**My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.**

I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.

**Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,**

the wickedness of those who put their trust in their goods,
and boast of their great riches?

**We can never ransom ourselves,
or deliver to God the price of our life;**

for the ransom of our life is so great,
that we should never have enough to pay it,
**in order to live for ever and ever,
and never see the grave.**

For we see that the wise die also;
like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.

**Their graves shall be their homes for ever,
their dwelling places from generation to generation,
though they call the lands after their own names.**

Even though honoured, they cannot live for ever;
they are like the beasts that perish.

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.** ♪

Someone in the crowd said to him, ‘Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.’ But Jesus said to him, ‘Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?’ And he said to them, ‘Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.’

Then Jesus told them a parable: ‘The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, “What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?” Then he said, “I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be

merry.” But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?” So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.’

Luke 12.13—21

The Gospel of Christ.

♪ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. ♪

Homily

Affirming our Faith⁴

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 & Absolution⁵

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 of the Lord be always with you!
And also with you.

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Offertory Hymn #362

Tell Out, My Soul⁶

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his Word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name, the Lord, the Mighty One.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**

**Tell out, my soul, the glories of his Word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and forevermore!**

Prayer over the Gifts⁷

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.

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.

Blessed be your name, Father most holy,
for your steadfast love endures forever.

You called Israel to be your child,
and out of Egypt you brought forth your son.

When Israel turned away and refused you,
your compassion grew warm and strong
and ruled over your anger,
and you led him with cords of kindness
and wrapped him in bands of love.

Because you could not withdraw, in your great mercy,
you sent your infant Son, eternally begotten of you,
not only for the children of Israel

but for all whom you would embrace as your daughters and sons.
By his sacrifice you turned toward the whole world in everlasting love.
And so we give you thanks with angels and archangels
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.

Inexhaustible God, you have not stored up treasure for yourself
but instead have been rich toward us;
you did not keep your Son in heaven
but sent him among us to share your boundless inheritance of grace.
Send your Spirit upon your church,
that grace freely received may be freely shared.

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.

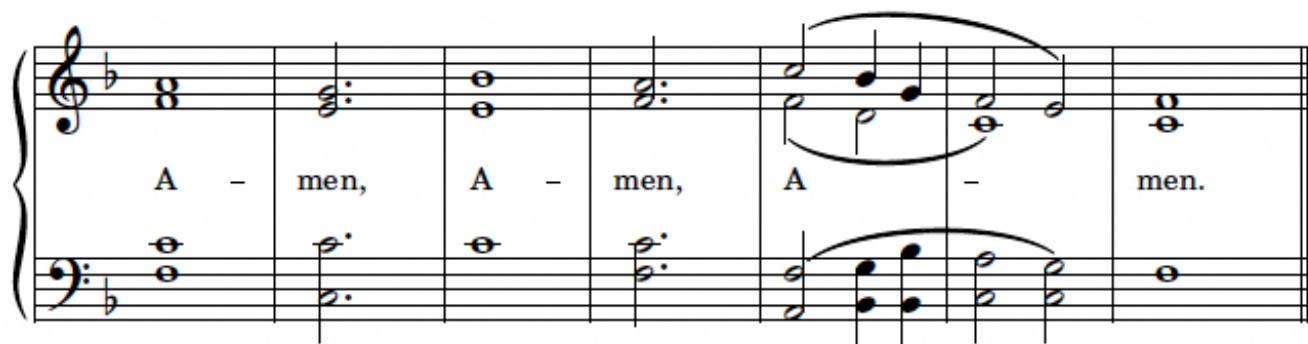
Christ will come again.

Creating God, in Christ you make a new family of faith
where there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free.

Revive your church in the very places
where human differences threaten to keep your disciples divided.

Wherever your church is in dispute with itself
and your disciples are in conflict with one another,
stir our hearts to repentance,
give us humility to discover what love means,
and open our imaginations to the life made possible in you.

Renew us and all creation in your image,
until the day when Christ is all and is in all,
Trinity of love and power, one God, 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.

We keep silent and pray for a short time.

The Breaking of the Bread⁹

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.**

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 communion¹¹:*

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 Communion¹²

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.

Doxology¹³

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.

God of Grace and God of Glory¹⁴

verses 1, 3, 4

**God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power;
now fulfil your church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

**Cure your children's warring madness, bend our pride to your control.
Shame our wanton selfish gladness, rich in goods and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be
armoured with all Christ-like graces, pledged to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we fail ourselves and thee,
lest we fail ourselves and 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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Wardens

Sources

Our cover image is a picture of the painting “Grain Fields” by the American artist Edwin Evans. This picture is in the public domain. Evans, Edwin, 1844-1923. Grain Fields, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57001> [retrieved July 26, 2022]. Original source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Evans-GrainFields.png>.

¹ Music: (Tune: St. Thomas), Melody: Aaron Williams (1731—76). Text: James Montgomery (1771--1854), alt. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

² from *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* (2009) quoted in: *Alternative RCL Collects (Final 2019)*, Anglican Church of Canada.

³ *A Liturgical Psalter*. (General Synod 2016 Edition) The Psalter of *The Book of Alternative Services* Emended for Contemporary Liturgical Use. Anglican Church of Canada.

⁴ *Celebrate God's Presence* (2000). United Church of Canada.

⁵ Introduction and Absolution: *The Book of Alternative Services*. Confession: *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁶ Music: (Tune: Woodlands), Music Walter Grotz (1877—1949), © Oxford University Press, © 1982 Hope Publishing. Text: Song of Mary (Luke 1.46—56), para. Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926—). Para © 1962, renewal 1990 Hope Publishing Co. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁷ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁸ *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

⁹ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

¹⁰ St. Benedict's Table, Winnipeg.

¹¹ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

¹² *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹³ *An Order for the Holy Eucharist 2004*. Church in Wales.

¹⁴ Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878—1969), alt. Music: (Tune: Cwm Rhondda) Music: John Hughes (1873—1932). Used under OneLicense A-604280.