



# Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

## Holy Eucharist

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

4 September 2022



*Called to Life — Compelled to Love*



The territory where the Church of the Nativity resides is has been long-tended by many Indigenous peoples including the Neutrals, the Mississauga, the Anishinaabe, 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 and respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the nations of this place and 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.*

**Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness <sup>1</sup>**

**Praise the one who breaks the darkness with a liberating light;  
praise the one who frees the prisoners, turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the one who preached the gospel, healing every dread disease,  
calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.**

**Praise the one who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word.  
Praise the one who drove out demons with a piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the one who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand.  
From this well comes living water, quenching thirst in every land.**

**Praise the One true love incarnate: Christ who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done.  
Praise the one redeeming glory, praise the One who makes us one.**

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.**

Collect <sup>2</sup>

Let us pray.

Jealous God,  
you call us to hate the life  
that is an echo of death and a whisper of fear:  
give us the courage

to pass through shadows and count the cost of a love beyond measure;  
through Jesus Christ, the one who is fully alive,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

# Holy Scripture

1<sup>st</sup> Reading

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ‘Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.’ So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the LORD came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

*Jeremiah 18.1—11*

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

Lord, you have searched me out and known me.

**You know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

You trace my journeys and my resting-places  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

**Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,  
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.**

You press upon me behind and before and lay your hand upon me.

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**

For you yourself created my inmost parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

**I will thank you because I am marvellously made;  
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.**

My body was not hidden from you, while I was being made in secret and  
woven in the depths of the earth.

**Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;  
all of them were written in your book;**

they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them. How  
deep I find your thoughts, O God!

**How great is the sum of them!**

If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand;  
**to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.**

*The acclamation is sung*

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah;  
hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.  
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah;  
hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

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.** ♪

Now large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, 'Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it?

Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, “This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.” Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

*Luke 14.25—33*

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.

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 # 435

**Take My Life, and Let it Be <sup>6</sup>**

**Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet, and let them be swift and purposeful for thee.**

**Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee;  
take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.**

**Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine;  
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.**

**Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.**

Prayer over the Gifts <sup>7</sup>

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.**

Praise be unto you, God of the prophets,  
for you have taken into your own two hands  
the redemption of your world  
and refashioned us from brokenness  
into life everlasting with you.

Like a potter you fashioned your chosen people,  
making them into a vessel worthy of your glory.

When that vessel was spoiled  
you called your people to repentance  
and sent prophets to renew their faith.

In the fullness of time,  
through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son,  
you reworked the clay like a potter at a wheel,  
and remade a vessel revealing  
your goodness and grace through the forgiveness of sins,  
raising us up from the dust of the earth  
to the hope of everlasting life.

And so with angels and archangels  
and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their 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 love,  
you welcome us at this table  
as siblings in a new family.  
Shape our life together  
by the way we belong to one another in you.  
Send your Holy Spirit upon your church  
to make us faithful witnesses to your beloved community.

Sanctify 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 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.

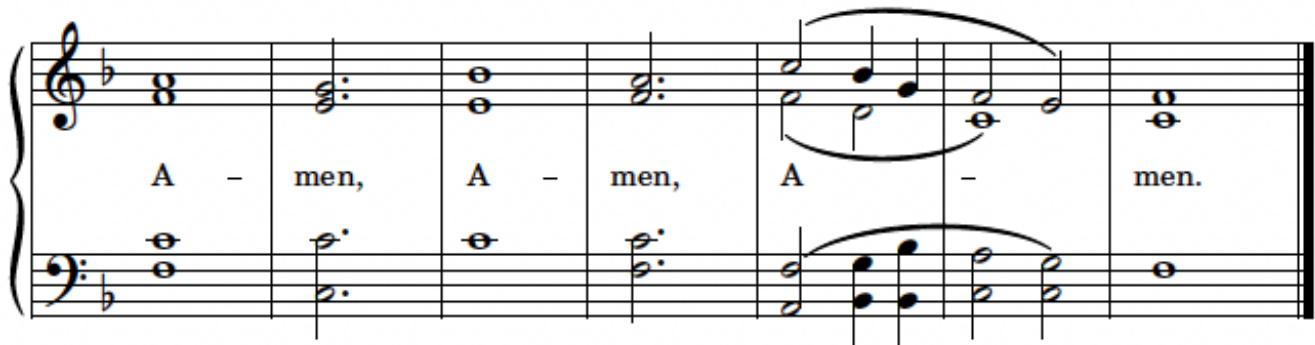
**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Creating and re-creating God,  
you are the potter and we are the clay.  
Renew your church today in the touch of your hands.  
Search and know the places that are broken  
and the hearts that long to be mended.  
Form your people in faithfulness to Jesus.  
Shape us to be his disciples,  
to take up our cross and follow him.  
Have your own way with us, Lord:  
mold us and make us,  
search us and try us,  
touch us and heal us,  
till all shall see Christ only, always, living in us.

Bring us at last to the blessed day  
when we are one with the family of saints gathered around your throne,  
in the company of the Holy Spirit,  
in union with Christ,  
O Father most holy, now and always.



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.

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 the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory  
are yours, now and for ever.**

**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<sup>9</sup>

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.**

### Communion<sup>10</sup>

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 Christ's 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 communion<sup>11</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>12</sup>

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.**

## Doxology<sup>13</sup>

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.**

**Take Up Your Cross, the Saviour Said** <sup>14</sup>

*Verses 1, 4, & 5*

**Take up your cross, the Saviour said,  
if you would my disciple be;  
deny yourself, the world forsake,  
and humbly follow after me.**

**Take up your cross, then, in his strength,  
and calmly every danger brave:  
'twill guide you to a better home,  
and lead to victory o'er the grave.**

**Take up your cross and follow Christ,  
nor think till death to lay it down;  
for only those who bear the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.**

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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The Reverend Canon David Linn  
Mr. Peter Harding  
Mrs. Laura Brintnell

*Bishop of Niagara*  
*Rector*  
*Honorary Assistant*  
*Director of Music*  
*Parish Administrator*

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

*Wardens*

## Sources

Our cover image depicts Carol Lee at the potter's wheel in her studio at Pocosin Arts overlooking the Scuppernong River. From "Coast watch" (Raleigh, N.C., UNC Sea Grant College Program, 1979). Public Domain. Sourced from <https://flic.kr/p/xcdnaM>

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<sup>1</sup> Music: (Tune: Nettleton), *A Repository of Sacred Music: Part Second*, Harrisburg, 1813. Text: Rusty Edwards (1955—) © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

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

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

<sup>4</sup> *Celebrate God's Presence* (2000). United Church of Canada.

<sup>5</sup> Introduction and Absolution: *The Book of Alternative Services*. Confession: *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>6</sup> Music: (Tune: Mozart), composer unknown. Text: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836—79). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

<sup>7</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>8</sup> *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

<sup>9</sup> *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

<sup>10</sup> St. Benedict's Table, Winnipeg.

<sup>11</sup> Selected from the prayers provided for this use in "A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion," Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

<sup>12</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>13</sup> *An Order for the Holy Eucharist 2004*. Church in Wales.

<sup>14</sup> Text: Charles William Everest (1814—77). Music: Melody *Lochamer Liederbuch*, 1450? Used under OneLicense A-604280.