

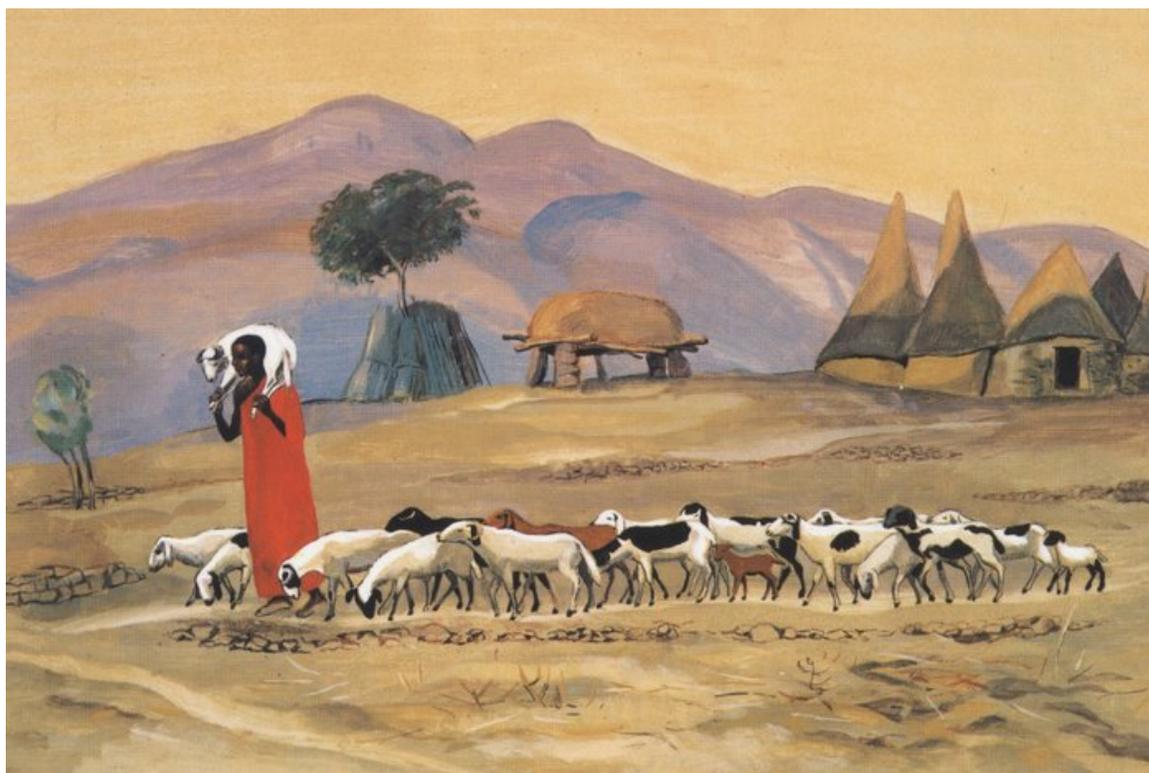


Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

11 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.

The Kingdom of God is Justice and Joy¹

**The kingdom of God is justice and joy,
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know,
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.**

**The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
the captives are freed, the sinners find place.
The outcasts are welcomed God's banquet to share,
and hope is awakened in place of despair.**

**The kingdom of God is challenge and choice;
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
God's love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross,
our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.**

**God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal,
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call,
and all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.**

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.

Let us pray.

God of the dirtied hands and the wandering feet:
you seek out the lost before they ever turn to you.
Take us with you into the abandoned places
to find a new community outside our fortress walls;
through Jesus Christ, the Searching One,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Holy Scripture

1st Reading

A reading from the first letter to Timothy.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Timothy 1.12—17

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Deliver me, O Lord, from evildoers;
protect me from the violent,
who devise evil in their hearts and stir up strife all day long.
**They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent;
adder's poison is under their lips.**

Keep me, O Lord, from the hands of the wicked;
protect me from the violent,
who are determined to trip me up.
**The proud have hidden a snare for me
and stretched out a net of cords;
they have set traps for me along the path.**

I have said to the Lord, "You are my God;
listen, O Lord, to my supplication."
**O Lord God, the strength of my salvation,
you have covered my head in the day of battle.**

Do not grant the desires of the wicked, O Lord,
nor let their evil plans prosper.
**Let not those who surround me lift up their heads;
let the evil of their lips overwhelm them.**

Let hot burning coals fall upon them;
let them be cast into the mire, never to rise up again.
**A slanderer shall not be established on the earth,
and evil shall hunt down the lawless.**

I know that the Lord will maintain the cause of the poor
and render justice to the needy.
**Surely, the righteous will give thanks to your name,
and the upright shall continue in your sight.**

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 all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, ‘This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.’

So he told them this parable: ‘Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, “Rejoice with me, for I have found my

sheep that was lost.” Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.

‘Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, “Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.” Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.’

Luke 15.1—10

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

℣ God of grace,
℟ 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.

God of mercy and forgiveness,
we confess that sin still has a hold on us.
We have harmed your good creation.
We have failed to do justice, love kindness,
and walk humbly with you.
Turn us in a new direction.
Show us the path that leads to life.
Be our refuge and strength on the journey,
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
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 # 352

Amazing Grace⁶

**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found: was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace first taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!**

**The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.**

Prayer over the Gifts⁷

Gracious God,
in your great love you richly provide for our needs.
Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing,
and make us ready to share with all in need;
through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.
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.

Honour and glory be to you, Lord God, king of the ages,
because you created the world and called a people;
yet when your people became skilled in doing evil
and forgot how to do good,
you displayed the utmost patience,
and your grace overflowed with love.

When your sheep wandered away from their sheepfold,
you searched high and low,
and in Jesus you came among your people
to bring them home to you.

Just so, when we wander away,
you come to us in the crucified and risen Jesus
and place us on your shoulders and rejoice to bring us home.

And so we enter that joy in the presence of angels and archangels
and all the company of heaven,
singing your hymn of 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 grace, in Christ you came into the world
to save sinners, to welcome them, and to eat with them.
You spread a table in our sight and invite us to join you in glory.
Now send down your Holy Spirit,
that your people who have strayed like lost sheep
may dwell in the paths of righteousness,
and that these gifts of bread and wine 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.

Searching and yearning God,
in Christ you enter the wilderness
and sweep the dark corners of our world
because you hate nothing you have made
and long to draw us back to your heart.

Find those who are lost; reach any who have strayed;
pursue all who seem determined to wander
further and further from your fold.

Heal your earth: where the fruitful land is waste and void,
where the mountains are quaking,
and the birds of the air have fled,
bring hope, transformation, and deliverance.

Immortal, invisible Source of all being,
redeem your creation in the power of your Spirit,
and draw all things through the free gift of your Son
into the glory of your presence.

A musical score for piano accompaniment, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clefs) and a grand staff bracket. The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are "A - men, A - men, A - men." The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with some accompaniment in the bass clef. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

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.**

Amen.

We keep silent and pray for a short time.

**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**

The Breaking of the Bread⁹

'I am the bread of life,' says the Lord.
'Whoever comes to me will never be hungry;
whoever believes in me will never thirst.'
**Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in God!**

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 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

God of the abundant table,
you have refreshed our hearts in this meal
with bread for the journey.
Give us your grace on the road
that we might serve our neighbours with joy;
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
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.

O Jesus, I Have Promised¹⁴

**O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend.
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.**

**O let me feel thee near me: the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer and shield my soul from sin.**

**O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee,
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be;
and, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end!
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.**

**O let me see thy footmarks and in them plant mine own:
my hope to follow duly is in thy strength alone.
O guide me, call me, draw me, uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me, my Saviour and my Friend.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Postlude



The Church of the Nativity

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Parish Administrator

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

Wardens

Sources

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¹ Music: (Tune: Paderborn), German trad. *Catholisch-Perbornisches Gesangbuch*, 1765. Text: Brian Austin Rees (1911—8) © Hope Publishing Co. 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: New Britain), *Melody Columbian Harmony*, Cincinnati, 1829, adapt. Edwin Othello Excell (1851—1921). Text: stanzas 1—4 John Newton (1725—1807); stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, Richmond, 1790. 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: John Ernest Bode (1816—74). Music: (Tune: Wolvercote) William Harold Ferguson (1874—1950). © Oxford University Press. Used under OneLicense A-604280.