



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

18 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.

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee ¹

**Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.**

**All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.**

**Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father and our Mother, all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.**

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.

When joy is gone and hearts are sick, O God,
you give us Christ as our healing balm.

He came in human flesh
that he might give himself as a ransom for our salvation
and anoint us with the Spirit of consolation and joy.

Hear the cry of your people,
that we may rejoice in the richness of your love
and be faithful stewards of your many gifts;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

Amen.

Holy Scripture

1st Reading

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

My joy is gone, grief is upon me,
my heart is sick.

Hark, the cry of my poor people
from far and wide in the land:

‘Is the Lord not in Zion?

Is her King not in her?’

(‘Why have they provoked me to anger with their images,
with their foreign idols?’)

‘The harvest is past, the summer is ended,
and we are not saved.’

For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt,
I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

Is there no balm in Gilead?

Is there no physician there?

Why then has the health of my poor people
not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water,
and my eyes a fountain of tears,
so that I might weep day and night
for the slain of my poor people!

Jeremiah 8.18 – 9.1

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

O God, the heathen have come into your inheritance;
they have profaned your holy temple;
they have made Jerusalem a heap of rubble.

**They have given the bodies of your servants as food for the birds of the air,
and the flesh of your faithful ones to the beasts of the field.**

They have shed their blood like water on every side of Jerusalem,
and there was no one to bury them.

**We have become a reproach to our neighbours,
an object of scorn and derision to those around us.**

How long will you be angry, O Lord?
Will your fury blaze like fire for ever?

**Pour out your wrath
upon the heathen who have not known you
and upon the dominions that have not called upon your name.**

For they have devoured Jacob and made his dwelling a ruin.

**Remember not our past sins;
let your compassion be swift to meet us;
for we have been brought very low.**

Help us, O God our Saviour, for the glory of your name;
deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your name's sake.

A reading from the first letter to Timothy.

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings should be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

1 Timothy 2.1—7

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

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.** ♪

Then Jesus said to the disciples, ‘There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, “What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.” Then the manager said to himself, “What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.” So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, “How much

do you owe my master?" He answered, "A hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty." Then he asked another, "And how much do you owe?" He replied, "A hundred containers of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and make it eighty." And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

'Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.'

Luke 16.1—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.

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 # 309

Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet ⁶

Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet,
praise the Lord with the harp and lute,
praise the Lord with the gentle sounding flute.

Praise the Lord in the field and forest,
praise the Lord in the city square,
praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.

Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine,
praise the Lord in the dark of night,
praise the Lord in the rain or snow or in the morning light.

Praise the Lord in the deepest valley,
praise the Lord on the highest hill,
praise the Lord, never let your voice be still.

Praise the Lord with the crashing cymbal,
praise the Lord with the pipe and string,
praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.

Praise the Lord on a weekday morning,
praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,
praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.

Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow,
praise the Lord in the time of joy,
praise the Lord in the every moment, nothing let your praise destroy.

Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet,
praise the Lord in your work or play,
praise the Lord every where in every way!

Prayer over the Gifts ⁷

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.

God of wonder and love,
we thank and praise you

because we and all creation were your debtors;
your Son Jesus Christ forgave our debts at the price of his own blood
and showed us what your grace could do.

When your people cried out for healing balm,

you restored their soul,

sending your only Son to be the steward

who turned justice into mercy

and in spite of our failure made us welcome in your eternal home

as your companions forever.

He transforms us from resentful antagonists and anxious sinners
into joyful friends,

and in his glorious resurrection opens the way to life with you.

And so with angels and archangels and the company of heaven,

we join the everlasting song of 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 our saviour,
you desire everyone to be saved
and to come to the knowledge of the truth;
and in Christ Jesus you have given us
the one mediator between yourself and humankind.

Receive the supplications and thanksgivings of your church,
that by the power of your Spirit
your people may be made holy in the likeness of your Son.

By that same Holy Spirit,
bless these gifts of bread and wine,
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.

God of compassion,
bring hope to any whose joy is gone,
who find grief is upon them,
whose heart is sick.

Come near to all who find you far away,
who have waited long,
whose sadness is deep,
who have been taken hold of by dismay,
whose eyes are a fountain of tears.

Be their balm in Gilead.
Be the physician of their soul and body.
Restore the well-being of your people.
Give them faith,
lend them patience,
fill them with courage,
and heal every sin-sick soul.

Bring your whole creation to the day
when your saints enjoy the glory of your reign,
and you are all in all,
one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

A musical score for piano accompaniment of the hymn 'Amen. Amen. Amen.' The score is written in a single system with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 8/8. The lyrics are: 'A - men, A - men, A - men.' The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with the bass clef providing harmonic support. 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.

Let Us Break Bread Together

Let us break bread together on our knees.
Let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees.
Let us drink wine together on our knees. *Refrain*

Let us praise God together on our knees.
Let us praise God together on our knees. *Refrain*

Give to Us Laughter

Give to us laughter, O Source of our life.
Laughter can banish so much of our strife.
Laughter and love give us wholeness and health.
Laughter and love are the coin of true wealth.

Give to us laughter as sign of deep joy;
let us in laughing find Christian employ,
joining with stars and with bright northern lights,
laughing and praising and sharing delights.

Why do we worry that we will lose face?
Why act like king for the whole human race?
Often in family, and often with friend,
laughing at pride causes anguish to end.

Even in sorrow and hours of grief,
laughter with tears brings most healing relief.
God, give us laughter, and God, give us peace,
joys of your promise among us increase.

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.

The Love of Jesus Calls Us¹⁴

**The love of Jesus calls us our joyous praise to sing;
our deeply felt thanksgivings we now together bring,
for all God's many blessings, unasked yet still received,
and for the generations who faithfully believed.**

**The love of Jesus calls us, that we may always be
companions on a journey, where all the world may see
that serving Christ is freedom which time does not destroy;
where Christ's command is duty, and every duty joy.**

**The love of Jesus calls us to go where he would go,
to challenge all that limits, to change, to learn, to grow,
to know that Christ has freed us, that prisons are no more;
for those who seek his kingdom, Christ opens every door.**

**The love of Jesus calls us in swiftly changing days,
to be God's co-creators in new and wondrous ways;
that God with men and women may so transform the earth,
that love and peace and justice may give God's kingdom birth.**

Dismissal

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

Postlude



The Church of the Nativity

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Wardens

Sources

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- ¹ Music: (Tune: Hymn to Joy), Ludwig van Beethoven (1770—1827), arr. Edward Hodges (1796—1867). Text: Henry van Dyke (1852—1933), 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 & Text: Natalie Sleeth (1930—92). © 1976 Hinshaw Music Inc. 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: Herbert O’Driscoll (1928—). © Selah Publishing Co., Inc. Music: (Tune: Aurelia) Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810—76). Used under OneLicense A-604280.