



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

16 October 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.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing¹

**Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious measure, sung by flaming tongues above;
O the vast, the boundless treasure of my God's unchanging love.**

**Here I make faith's affirmation: thus far by thy help I've come,
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.**

**O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
take my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.**

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 dispossessed,
you teach us to hunger for justice
even when the weak are shut out
and the powerful turn over in their beds:
in the heat of our anger
and the bitterness of our complaints,
give us courage to protest,
the persistence to pray and the heart to love;
through Jesus Christ, the true judge,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

Amen.

Holy Scripture

1st Reading

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the new covenant God makes with the house of Israel.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD. In those days they shall no longer say:

‘The parents have eaten sour grapes,
and the children’s teeth are set on edge.’

But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the LORD’, for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Jeremiah 31.27—34

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Oh, how I love your law!
All the day long it is in my mind.
**Your commandment has made me wiser than my enemies,
and it is always with me.**

I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your decrees are my study.
**I am wiser than the elders,
because I observe your commandments.**

I restrain my feet from every evil way,
that I may keep your word.
**I do not shrink from your judgements,
because you yourself have taught me.**

How sweet are your words to my taste!
They are sweeter than honey to my mouth.
**Through your commandments I gain understanding;
therefore I hate every lying way.**

The work of an evangelist is described in the final instructions to Timothy.

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching.

For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths.

As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

2 Timothy 3.14—4.5

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 told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, ‘In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, “Grant me justice against my opponent.” For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, “Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.”’

And the Lord said, ‘Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?’

Luke 18.1—8

The Gospel of Christ.

♪ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. ♪

Homily

Affirming our Faith³

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.**

✠ Hear us, O God.
✠ **Your mercy is great.**

Confession & Absolution ⁴

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

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Offertory Hymn

Teach Us to Love Your Word, Lord⁵

Refrain: **Teach us to love your word, Lord;
let it cleanse us through and through.
As we open our hearts to obey you,
break us, remake us anew.**

**Your people were slaves in Egypt;
your mighty word set them free.
Calling them into a new land,
you led them safe through the sea. *Refrain***

**When we were yet not a people,
your word gathered us in.
You made of us a new nation
to praise you in wonder and love. *Refrain***

**Teach us to walk in your way, Lord.
Your kindness to us sets us free,
Turns us to love one another,
sharing your mercy and peace. *Refrain***

Prayer over the Gifts⁶

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.

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.

It is our privilege and our joy
to give you thanks and praise, Lord God,
because you created all things
in order to dwell in covenant love with your people.

When that covenant was broken,
you promised to make a new covenant
with the house of Israel and the house of Judah,
in which you would put your law within them
and write it on their hearts;
you would be their God, and they would be your people.
They would all know you,
from the least of them to the greatest;
for you would forgive their iniquity
and remember their sin no more.

In the body and blood of Jesus
 you made that new covenant,
 and in his death and resurrection
 we are bound to you and you to us for evermore.
 And so we join with all the company of heaven
 in the song of your everlasting glory.



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.**

Abiding God, you shape us through this holy meal
to be your companions, to befriend one another,
and to be reconciled with the whole earth
Send your Spirit on your Church,
that your people may endure suffering,
and that, being encouraged, they may proclaim your truth
and learn to live in your good patience.

Sanctify 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.”

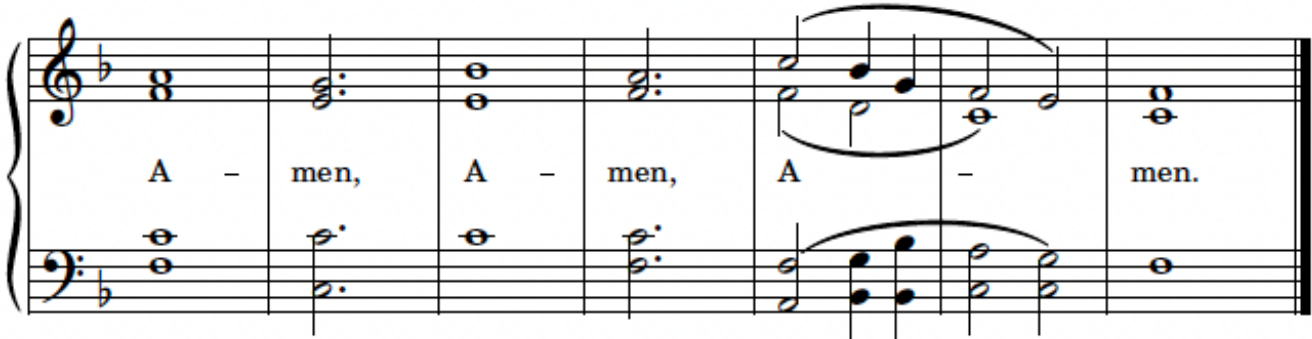
Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

God of justice, your children call upon you
like a widow pleading her cause.
As you constantly knock on the door of our hearts,
inviting us to embrace your ways,
so we seek to wear you out
with our longing for you to grant justice
to your children who cry to you day and night.
Give hope to any who are close to losing heart.
Bring consolation to all
who can hardly continue another day.
Uphold those who have nowhere to turn.
Hasten the day when every tear turns to joy
and all sorrow to dancing,
when you are all in all, one God, Trinity of peace and love.



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 Bread⁸

'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 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.

Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot,
to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down,
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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.

Look forward in faith
All time is in God's hand.
Walk humbly with him
And trust his future plan.
God has wisely led
His people by his power
Look forward in hope
He gives us each new hour.

Look forward in faith
The world is in God's care.
His purpose of love
He calls on us to share.
In our neighbours need
The Lord is present still.
He blesses the meek!
The earth will know God's will.

Look forward in faith
God gives us life each day
Go onward with Christ
His Spirit guides our way.
Now God lets us live
Within the sphere of grace.
Trust ever in him –
He rules o'er earth and space.

Dismissal

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



The Church of the Nativity

worshipwithnativity.org



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

Wardens

Sources

Our cover image is a photo taken by the rector.

¹ Music: (Tune: Nettleton), *A Repository of Sacred Music: Part Second*, Harrisburg, 1813. Text: Robert Robinson (1735—90), alt. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

² From *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* by Stephen Shakespeare, from *Alternative Collects* prepared by the Liturgy Task Force.

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

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

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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 Music: (Tune: Woodworth), William Batchelder Bradbury(1816—68). Text: Charlotte Elliott (1789—1871) ©. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹² *Sundays and Seasons*.

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

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