

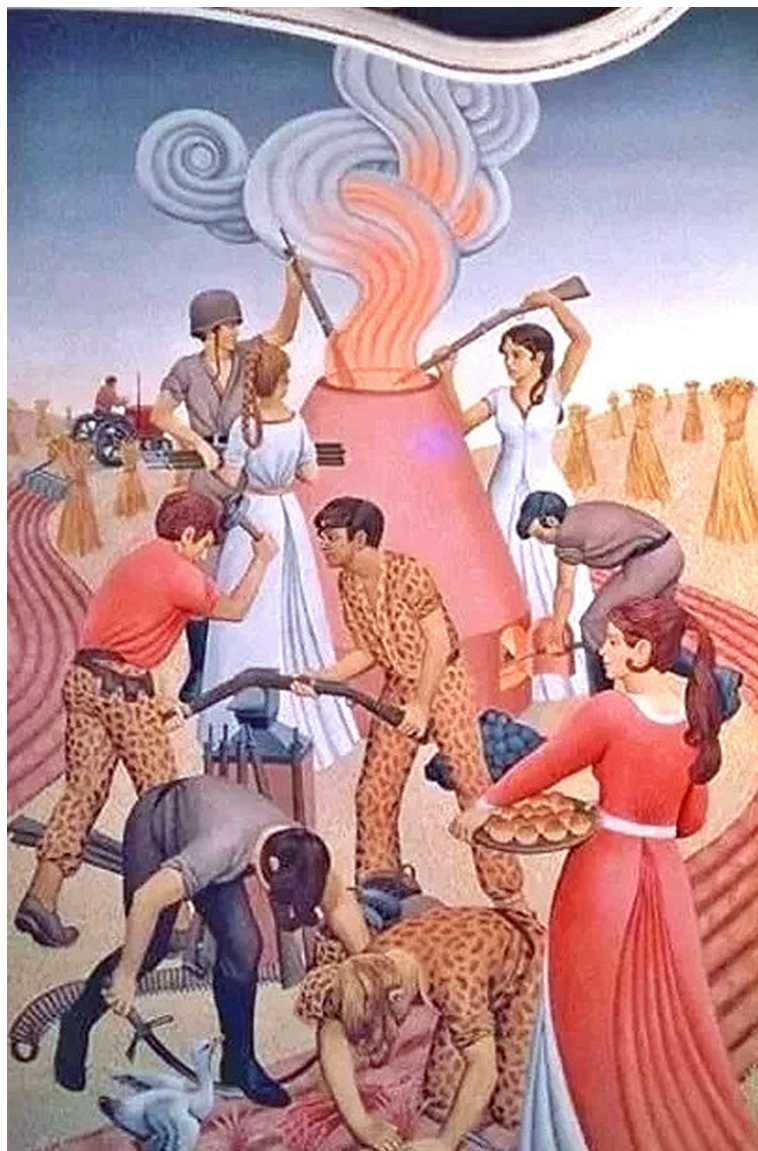


# Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

## Holy Eucharist

27 November 2022

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent



*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.*

**Hark the Glad Sound! The Saviour Comes <sup>1</sup>**

**Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes,  
the Saviour promised long:  
let every heart prepare a throne,  
and every voice a song.**

**Christ comes, the prisoners to release  
in Satan's bondage held;  
the gates of brass before him burst;  
the iron fetters yield.**

**Christ comes, the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure,  
and from the treasures of grace  
to bless the humble poor.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
thy welcome shall proclaim;  
and heaven's eternal arches ring  
with thy beloved name.**

Welcome

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## Opening Acclamation

Pour down, O heavens, from above,  
and let the skies rain down righteousness.

**Arise, shine; for your light comes,  
and the glory of the Lord rises upon us.**

**Though night still covers the earth  
and darkness covers the nations,  
over us will the Lord arise,  
over us will the glory of God appear.**

Pour down, O heavens, from above,  
and let the skies rain down righteousness.

## Confession & Absolution

Let us confess to our Loving God  
the sin that keeps us from the fulness of life.

**We confess that we have filled our waiting  
with distractions and busyness.**

**We have masked the silence with empty words  
and we have failed to treasure the time we are given.**

God offers us peace and stillness  
to dwell with her in mystery and love.

**We confess that we have dreamed selfish dreams,  
filling our waiting with possessions and comforts  
and neglecting those who wait in hunger and want.**

God offers us abundance  
in the richness of community and generous living

**We confess that we have failed  
to meet and serve the coming Christ,  
who waits for us in friend and stranger.  
We have been impatient and angry,  
and we have been blind to the Christ who waits with us.**

God offers to embrace us  
as we embrace her life in the world.

**We wait for you, knowing our need for forgiveness.**

God, who is infinite in mercy,  
forgives us and through her grace  
and sustains us in our waiting and watching.  
**Amen.**

Let us pray.

God of justice and peace,  
from the heavens you rain down mercy and kindness,  
that all on earth may stand in awe and wonder  
before your marvelous deeds.  
Raise our heads in expectation,  
that we may yearn for the coming day of the Lord  
and stand without blame before your Son, Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

# Holy Scripture

1<sup>st</sup> Reading

The prophet Isaiah describes the future house of the Lord.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come  
the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,  
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,  
and their spears into pruning-hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

*Isaiah 2.1—5*

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

I was glad when they said to me,  
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”  
**Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself.  
**To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.**

For there are the thrones of judgement,  
the thrones of the house of David.  
**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:**  
**“May they prosper who love you.**

Peace be within your walls  
and quietness within your towers.  
**For my kindred and companions’ sake,  
I pray for your prosperity.**

Because of the house of the Lord our God,  
I will seek to do you good.”

Paul urges the church in Rome to live honourably.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near.

Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy.

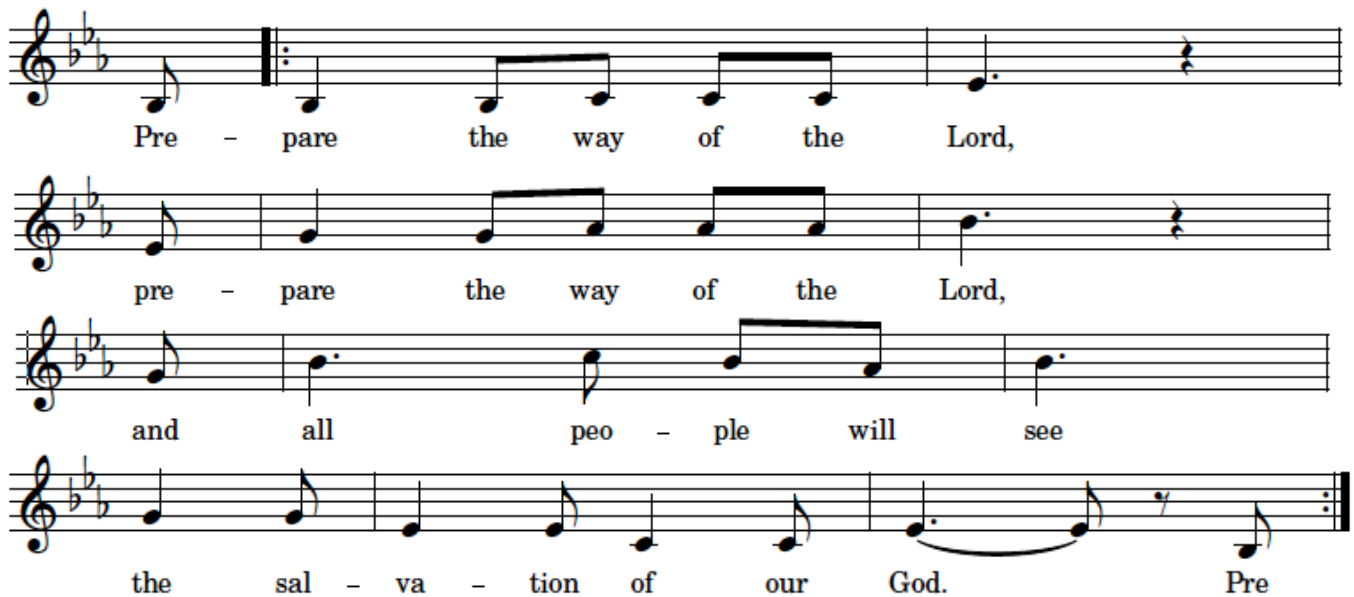
Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

*Romans 13. 11 - 14*

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The acclamation is sung*



The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Saint Matthew.

♪ **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.** ♪

Jesus said, 'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

The Gospel of Christ.

♪ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. ♪

Homily

Affirmation of Faith <sup>3</sup>

Let us affirm the faith we share.

We say together in faith

**Holy, holy, holy  
is the Lord God almighty,  
who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father,  
who created all things:  
**for by his will they were created and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:  
**for with his blood,  
he purchased us for God,  
from every tribe and language,  
from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:  
**the Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come!’  
Even so come, Lord Jesus!  
Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People

℣ God, in your mercy,  
℟ **hear our prayer.**

## The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you!  
**And also with you.**

# Feasting at the Table

Offertory Hymn # 114

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending <sup>4</sup>

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,  
once for favoured sinners slain;  
thousand thousand saints attending  
swell the triumph of his train:  
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!  
God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him,  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
all who set at nought and sold him,  
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply grieving,  
shall the true Messiah see.

Now redemption, long expected,  
see in solemn pomp appear;  
all his saints, on earth rejected,  
thrill the triumph sound to hear:  
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!  
See the day of God appear!

Yea, amen, let all adore thee,  
high on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory;  
claim the kingdom for thine own:  
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly!  
Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come!

## Prayer over the Gifts <sup>5</sup>

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom  
and send springs of water to thirsty ground.  
Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,  
and make us messengers of your mercy and love  
for all in need of your healing and justice.  
We ask this through Christ our Saviour.  
**Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving <sup>6</sup>

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.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker.  
Out of nothing, you called all worlds to be,  
and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment.  
Dawn and evening celebrate your glory  
till time shall be no more.

In Christ your Son the life of heaven and earth were joined,  
sealing the promise of a new creation,  
given, yet still to come.

Taught by your Spirit, we who bear your threefold Likeness  
look for the City of Peace in whose light we are transfigured  
and the earth transformed.

As children of your redeeming purpose who await the coming of your Son,  
we offer you our praise,  
with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven  
singing the hymn of your unending glory

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of pow - er and might,

hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving God.  
Our hope is built on Jesus,  
the first, the last, the living one.  
Obedient, even to accepting death,  
Jesus opened the gate of glory  
and calls us now to share the life of heaven.

Before Jesus was given up to suffering and death,  
alight with the vision of a feast  
that heralded a kingdom yet to come,  
at supper with his disciples he took bread  
and offered you thanks.  
He broke the bread,  
and gave it to them, saying:  
“Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.”

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks,  
and gave it to them saying: “Drink this, all of you.  
This is my Blood of the new covenant;  
it is poured out for you, and for all,  
that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in remembrance of me.”

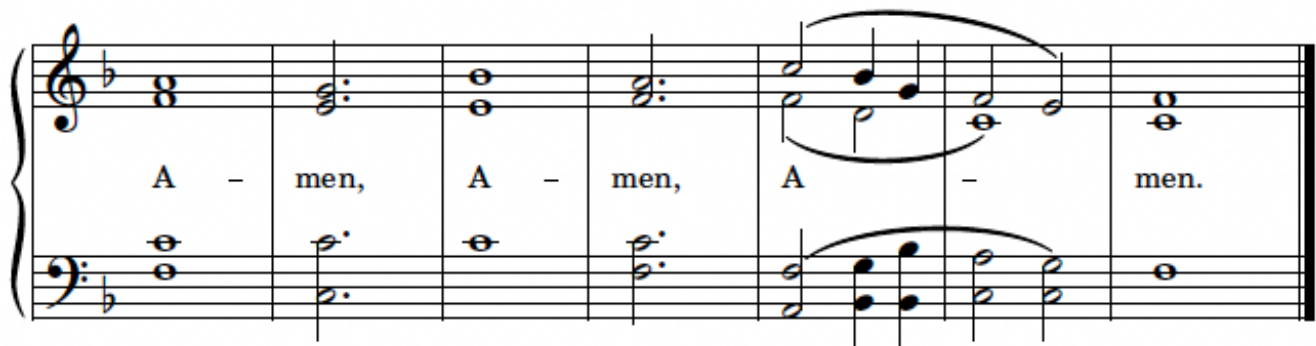
We now obey your Son’s command.  
**we remember his death,**  
**we proclaim his resurrection,**  
**we await his coming in glory;**

Made one with him, we offer you these gifts  
and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most gracious God, and send your Holy Spirit  
upon us and upon this bread and this wine,  
that, overshadowed by his life-giving power,  
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,  
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love  
and renewed for the service of your reign.

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's  
Body to live and work to your praise and glory;  
may we grow together in unity and love until at last,  
in your new creation, we enter into our heritage  
in the company of the Virgin Mary,  
the apostles, and prophets,  
and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages,



**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.**

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

*We keep silent and pray for a short time.*

God of promise,  
you prepare a banquet for us  
in your reign of justice and peace.

**Happy are those who are called  
to the supper of the Lamb.**

The gifts of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Communion

*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>8</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.

**O God, Unseen Yet Ever Near <sup>9</sup>**

O God, unseen yet ever near,  
your presence may we feel;  
and thus, inspired with holy fear,  
around your table kneel.

Here may your faithful people know  
the blessings of your love,  
the streams that through the desert flow,  
the manna from above.

We come, obedient to your word,  
to feast on heavenly food;  
to eat the body of the Lord,  
and drink his precious Blood.

O living Bread, enduring Vine,  
your words we shall obey,  
and go, renewed with strength divine,  
rejoicing on our way.

## Prayer after Communion<sup>10</sup>

Faithful God,  
in this meal you have remembered your mercy,  
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.  
As we wait for the day  
when all your promises will be fulfilled,  
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.  
Guide us toward your promised future,  
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Doxology<sup>11</sup>

Glory to God,  
**whose power, working in us,  
can do infinitely more  
than we can ask or imagine.**  
Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Parish Announcements

## Blessing

...  
**Amen.**

**God of Grace and God of Glory <sup>12</sup>**

**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.**

**Lo, the hosts of evil round us  
scorn your Christ, assail his ways.  
Fears and doubts too long have bound us;  
free our hearts to work and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days.**

**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.**

**Set our feet on lofty places;  
gird our lives that they may be  
armoured with all Christ-like graces  
in the fight for liberty.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we fail ourselves and thee.**

Dismissal

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



## **Your Daily Prayers are Requested:**

### ***For the Church:***

our Bishop: Susan  
our diocese: all the people of the Diocese of Niagara;  
cycle: the parish of St. Christopher, Burlington;  
wider: Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;  
Linda, our primate;  
the worldwide Anglican Communion, and in its cycle  
the Nippon Sei Ko Kai;

### ***For those in our parish cycle of prayer:***

David & Bonnie;  
Carol;  
Diane;

### ***For the needs of the world***

#### ***For peace:***

Ukraine, South Sudan, Yemen, and all places of conflict

#### ***For those we know in need of healing***

#### ***For those who have died, and those who mourn:***

**Thank you for your daily prayers  
for the people, worship, fellowship, and ministries  
of the Church of the Nativity**



# The Church of the Nativity

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The Right Reverend Susan Bell  
The Reverend Canon Matthew Griffin  
The Reverend Canon David Linn  
The Reverend Deacon Larry Collinson  
Mr. Peter Harding  
Mrs. Laura Brintnell

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

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

*Wardens*

## Sources

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<sup>1</sup> Text: Philip Doddridge (1702—51), alt. Music: Thomas Ravenscroft (1590?—1634?), *Whole Book of Psalms*, 1621.

<sup>2</sup> *A Liturgical Psalter*. Anglican Church of Canada. General Synod 2016.

<sup>3</sup> *Common Worship*. Affirmation E11. Church of England. cf. Revelation 4.8,11;5.9;22.17,20

<sup>4</sup> Text: John Cennick (1718—55), Charles Wesley (1707—88), Martin Madan (1726—90), alt. Music: Melody attrib. Thomas Olivers (1725—99) and Martin Madan (1726—90).

<sup>5</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>6</sup> *The Scottish Liturgy* 1982. The Scottish Episcopal Church.

<sup>7</sup> *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

<sup>8</sup> Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

<sup>9</sup> Music: John Day (1522—84), *Psalmes*, 1562. Text: Edward Osler (1798—1863); rev. *Hymns for Today’s Church*. © 1982 Hope Publishing. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

<sup>10</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>11</sup> *Book of Alternative Services*.

<sup>12</sup> Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878—1969), alt. Music: (Tune: Cwm Rhondda) John Hughes (1873—1932). Used under OneLicense A-604280.