



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

1 January 2023

The Naming of Jesus



WEB EDITION

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.

O Little Town of Bethlehem ¹

O little town of Bethlehem how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and Peace to all the earth.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given
as love imparts to human hearts
the blessings of God's heaven!
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in; be born to us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

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

Son of God, child of Mary,
born in the stable at Bethlehem,
be born again in us this day
that through our lives and worship
the world may know the wonder of your love.
Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray.

Eternal Father,
we give thanks for your incarnate Son,
whose name is our salvation.
Plant in every heart, we pray,
the love of him who is the Saviour of the world,
our Lord Jesus Christ;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, in glory everlasting.
Amen.

Holy Scripture

1st Reading

The book of Numbers records God's instructions to Moses of how to name and bless the people of Israel.

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,
The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

Numbers 6.22–27

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

O Lord our governor,
how exalted is your name in all the world!
**Out of the mouths of infants and children
your majesty is praised above the heavens.**

You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries,
to quell the enemy and the avenger.

**When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,**

what are mortals that you should be mindful of them,
their children that you should seek them out?

**You have made them but little lower than the angels;
you adorn them with glory and honour;**

you give them mastery over the works of your hands;
you put all things under their feet;
all sheep and oxen, even the wild beasts of the field,

the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and all that walks in the paths of the sea.

**O Lord our governor,
how exalted is your name in all the world!**

Because Christ shared flesh and blood with humanity, we are freed from the fear of death.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Philippians 2.9—13

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The acclamation is sung

Pre - pare the way of the Lord,
 pre - pare the way of the Lord,
 and all peo - ple will see
 the sal - va - tion of our God. Pre

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.** ♪

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was

called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Luke 2.15—21

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

Let us join together
in affirming the Church's faith in Jesus Christ.

We believe and declare
**that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God,
is both divine and human.**

God, of the being of the Father,
the only Son from before time began;
human from the being of his mother, born in the world;
**fully God and fully human;
human in both mind and body.**

As God he is equal to the Father,
as human he is less than the Father.
**Although he is both divine and human
he is not two beings but one Christ.**

One, not by turning God into flesh,
but by taking humanity into God;
**truly one, not by mixing humanity with Godhead,
but by being one person.**

For as mind and body form one human being
so the one Christ is both divine and human.
**The Word became flesh and lived among us;
we have seen his glory,
the glory of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.**

The Prayers of the People

✠ God of grace,
✠ **hear our prayer.**

Trusting the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour,
let us confess our sin.

God of life,
you promise good news of great joy for all people,
and call us to be messengers of your peace.

**We confess that too often we hoard our joy,
our resources, and our security.**

We nurture conflict and build barriers.

**We neglect the needs of our neighbors
and ignore the groaning of creation.**

Have mercy on us.

Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.

Where we are reluctant, give us courage.

Where we are cynical, restore our trust.

Renew us with your grace

and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.

Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you,
✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sin,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you!
And also with you.

Feasting at the Table

Offertory Carol # 126

Away in a Manger ⁴

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay;
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus -- look down from on high
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with you there.**

Prayer over the Gifts ⁵

God of abundance,
receive and bless these gifts we have offered.
Join our hearts with the song of the angels,
and gather us at your table of celebration.
Strengthen us to share with all the world
the abundance of your grace upon grace,
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.
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.

Worship and praise belong to you, Holy God,
in every place and at all times.

You made us, all the people of the world,
and everything that is.

You give us the daylight.

Your Word lights up our minds.

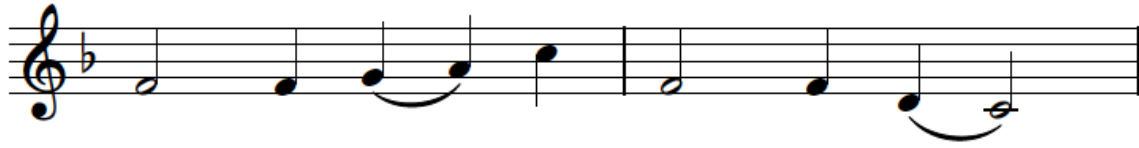
Jesus was born among us to be light in our darkness.

Your Spirit lives in us

so that we can look at the world with your eyes.

One day we will be with you in heaven,
but already we laugh with the saints and angels,
and sing their joyful song:





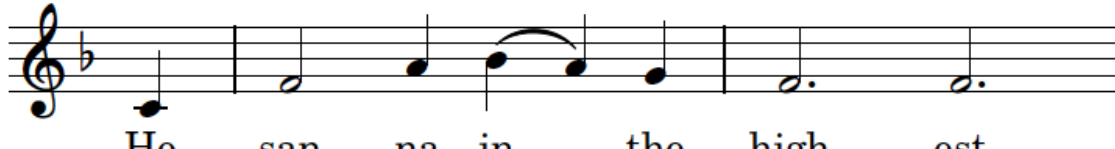
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



God of power_ and might,



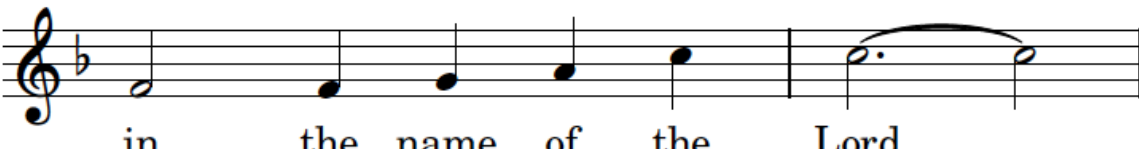
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blessed 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,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Gracious God, you never forget us or turn away from us,
even when we fail you.

You sent your Son Jesus who gave his life for us.
Jesus healed those who were sick,
cared for those who lived in poverty,
and cried with those who were sad.
He forgave sinners and taught us to forgive.
For all your love we give you thanks
in the way that Jesus showed us.

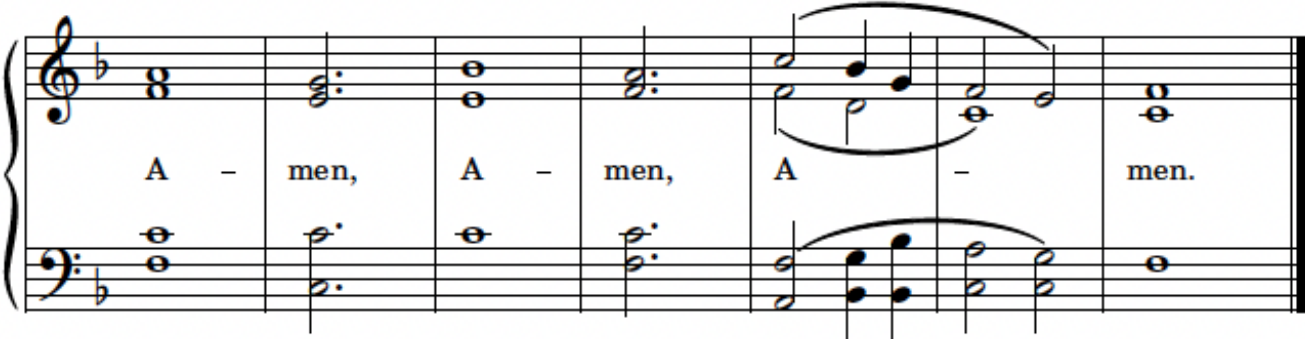
On the night before Jesus died,
while he was having supper with his friends,
he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:
“Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup,
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.”

So, as we do what Jesus told us,
we open our hearts to him;
**we remember how he died and rose again
to live now in us.**

Together with Jesus we offer you these gifts:
in them we give you ourselves.

Send your Holy Spirit on us and on this bread and this wine,
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ,
and that, sharing your life,
we may travel in your company to our journey's end.
With all your people we give you thanks and praise
through the Son and in the Spirit, now and for ever.



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.**

**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**

Amen.

We keep silent and pray for a short time.

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
**God here among us, light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Come, all people:
this is Christ's table to which all are invited.
Come, for all is ready.
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 communion⁸:*

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.

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime ⁹

'Twas in the moon of wintertime,
when all the birds had fled,
that mighty Gitchi Manitou
sent angel choirs instead;
before their light the stars grew dim,
and wandering hunters heard the hymn:
Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, *in excelsis gloria.*

Within a lodge of broken bark
the tender Babe was found;
a ragged robe of rabbit skin
enwrapped his beauty round,
but, as the hunter braves drew nigh,
the angel song rang loud and high:
Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, *in excelsis gloria.*

The earliest moon of wintertime
is not so round and fair
as was the ring of glory on
the helpless infant there.
The chiefs from far before him knelt
with gifts of fox and beaver pelt.
Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, *in excelsis gloria.*

O children of the forest free,
the kin of Manitou,
the holy child of earth and heaven
is born today for you.
Come kneel before the radiant boy,
who brings you beauty, peace and joy.
Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, *in excelsis gloria.*

Prayer after Communion ¹⁰

God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.
Amen.

Doxology ¹¹

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

Grace from God's own heart,
✠ peace from the Child in the manger,
and strength from the Spirit of life
be blessings for you today and forever.
Amen.

Shepherds in the Field Abiding¹²

Shepherds in the field abiding,
tell us, when the seraph bright
greeted you with wondrous tiding,
what you saw and heard that night.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

We beheld (it is no fable),
God incarnate, king of bliss,
swathed and cradled in a stable,
and the angel strain was this:
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Choristers on high were singing,
Jesus and his Virgin birth,
heavenly bells the while a-ringing,
“Peace, good will to all on earth.”
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Thanks, good shepherds, true your story;
let us go to Bethlehem.
Angels hymn the king of glory;
carol we with you and them.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Dismissal

Glory to God in the highest!
Peace to God’s people on earth!

Alleluia! Go in peace; share the gift of Jesus!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

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. George, Georgetown;

wider: Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;

Linda, our primate;

the worldwide Anglican Communion, and in its cycle
La Iglesia Anglican de Mexico

For the year ahead

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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Parish Administrator

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Mr. Doug Lampman

Wardens

Sources

Our cover image is an icon written by Kelly Latimore, entitled “Mary: Keep Watch.” The artist has granted permission for the non-commercial use of this image with attribution.

Latimore, Kelly. Mary: Keep Watch, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57106> [retrieved December 28, 2022]. Original source: Kelly Latimore Icons, <https://kellylatimoreicons.com/>.

¹ Text: Phillips Brooks (1835—93), alt. Music: Lewis Henry Redner (1831—1908) (but we all know Forest Green is the right tune)

² *Common Worship*. Affirmation E7. Church of England. cf. Ephesians 3.

³ *Sundays and Seasons*

⁴ Text: American (19th. c.) Music: William James Kirkpatrick (1838—1921).

⁵ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁶ *The Scottish Liturgy*. 1982, rev. 2021. The Scottish Episcopal Church.

⁷ *Book of Alternative Services*.

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

⁹ Text: Jean de Brébeuf (1593—1649); tr. Jesse Edgar Middleton (1872—1960), alt. Music: Melody French trad. (16th c.).

¹⁰ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹¹ *Book of Alternative Services*.

¹² Text: French trad.; tr. George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848—1934), alt. Music: Melody French; arr. Martin Shaw (1875—1958). Used under OneLicense A-604280.