

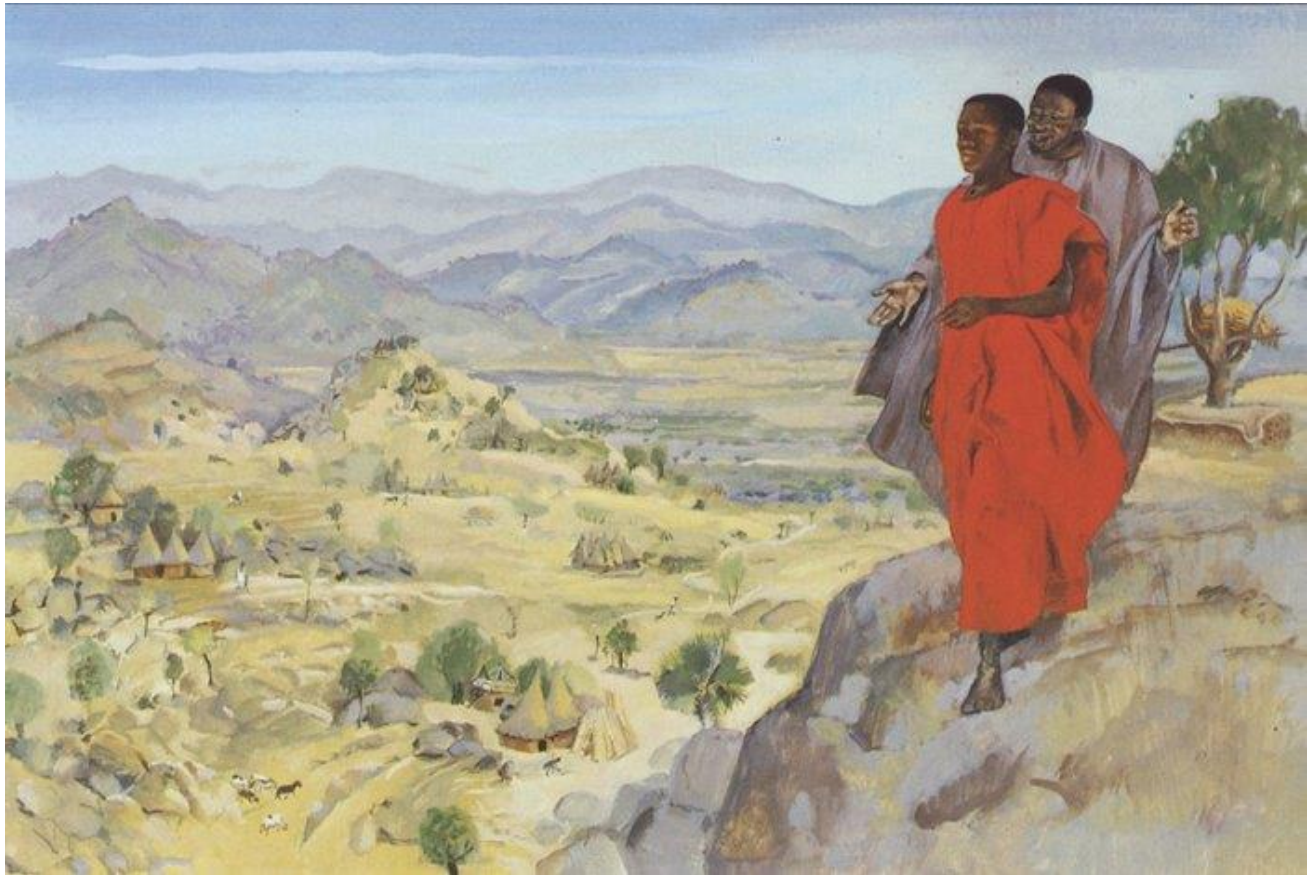


Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

The Great Litany and Holy Eucharist

26 February 2023

The First Sunday in Lent



WEB & LARGE PRINT EDITION

Called to Life — Compelled to Love



The territory where the Church of the Nativity resides has long been 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.

God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,
Have mercy on us.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
Have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide,
Have mercy on us.

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity,
three persons and one God,
Have mercy on us.

Lord, remember not our offences, nor the offences of our forebears;
spare us, good Lord,
spare your people whom you have redeemed with your precious blood.
Spare us, good Lord.

From all evil and mischief, from sin,
and from the crafts and assaults of the devil,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all spiritual blindness, from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy;
from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all deadly sin, and from the deceits of the flesh, and the devil,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism;
from hardness of heart, and contempt of your word and commandment,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From earthquake and tempest; from drought, fire, and flood;
from civil strife and violence; from war and murder;
and from dying suddenly and unprepared,
Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of your holy incarnation,
by your baptism, fasting, and temptation;
and by your proclamation of the kingdom,
Good Lord, deliver us.

By your agony and bitter grief, by your cross and passion,
by your precious death and burial,
by your glorious resurrection and ascension,
and by the coming of the Holy Spirit,
Good Lord, deliver us.

In our times of trouble, in our times of prosperity,
in the hour of death, and on the day of judgement,
Good Lord, deliver us.

Receive now our prayers, Lord God.
May it please you to rule and govern your holy Church universal
and lead it in your way.
Hear us, good Lord.

Strengthen your servant Charles our king in true worship and holiness of life,
be his defender and keeper, that he may always seek your honour and glory,
and endue the leaders of this nation with wisdom and understanding.
Hear us, good Lord.

Bless and defend all who strive for our safety and protection,
and shield them in all dangers and adversities.
Hear us, good Lord.

Grant wisdom and insight to those who govern us,
and to judges and magistrates the grace to execute justice with mercy.
Hear us, good Lord.

Guard, strengthen and enlighten Susan our bishop,
and all bishops, priests, and deacons
with true knowledge and understanding of your word,
that in their preaching and living they may declare it clearly and show its truth.
Hear us, good Lord.

Encourage and prosper your servants who spread the gospel in all the world,
and send out labourers into the harvest.
Hear us, good Lord.

Bless and keep your people,
that all may find and follow their true vocation and ministry.
Hear us, good Lord.

Give us a heart to love and reverence you,
that we may diligently live according to your commandments.
Hear us, good Lord.

To all your people give growth in grace to listen to your word,
to receive it gladly, and to bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.
Hear us, good Lord.

Strengthen those who stand firm in the faith, encourage the faint-hearted,
raise up those who fall, and finally beat down Satan under our feet.
Hear us, good Lord.

To all nations grant unity, peace, and concord,
and to all people give dignity, food, and shelter.
Hear us, good Lord.

Grant us abundant harvests,
strength and skill to honour the resources of the earth,
and wisdom to use them well.
Hear us, good Lord.

Enlighten with your Spirit all who teach and all who learn.
Hear us, good Lord.

Come to the help of all who are in danger, necessity, and trouble;
protect all who travel by land, air, or water;
and show your pity on all prisoners and captives.

Hear us, good Lord.

Defend and provide for the widowed and the orphaned,
the refugee and the homeless, the unemployed,
and all who are desolate and oppressed.

Hear us, good Lord.

Heal those who are sick in body or mind,
and give skill and compassion to all who care for them.

Hear us, good Lord.

Grant us true repentance, forgive our sins,
and strengthen us by your Holy Spirit
to amend our lives according to your holy word.

Hear us, good Lord.

Son of God, we ask you to hear us.

Son of God, we ask you to hear us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Have mercy on us.

O Christ, hear us.

O Christ, hear us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Let us pray.

Spirit of the desert,
you drove Jesus to the edge of the world
to seek your truth and find his calling:
scour our hearts and awaken our hunger,
so that freed from empty clinging
we may serve only you and the Source of All Being;
through Jesus Christ, the Lord of the wilds,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading

The first act of disobedience to the commands of God is described.

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, ‘You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.’

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God say, “You shall not eat from any tree in the garden”?’ The woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, “You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.”’ But the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Genesis 2.15—17, 3.1—7

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

**Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and did not conceal my guilt.

**I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord."
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

Therefore all the faithful
will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
**when the great waters overflow,
they shall not reach them.**

You are my hiding-place;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.**

Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you."

**Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.**

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

Adam's act of disobedience is counter-balanced by the gift of God's grace in Jesus Christ.

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Romans 5.12—9

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The acclamation is sung

In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful,
in the Lord I will re - joice!
Look to God, do not be a - fraid;
lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near;
lift up our voic - es, the Lord is near. In the

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.** ♪

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written,

“One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.” ’

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you”,
and “On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.” ’

Jesus said to him, ‘Again it is written, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.” ’

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, ‘All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

“Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.” ’

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Matthew 4.1—11

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine,
Jesus did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.

**Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.**

**He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.**

**Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Amen.

The Peace

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

Feasting at the Table

Offertory Hymn # 170

The Glory of these Forty Days ²

The glory of these forty days we celebrate with songs of praise;
for Christ, by whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed.

Alone and fasting Moses saw the loving God who gave the law;
and to Elijah, fasting, came the steeds and chariots of flame.

So Daniel trained his mystic sight, delivered from the lions' might;
and John, the bridegroom's friend, became the herald of Messiah's name.

Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full oft in fast and prayer with thee;
our spirits strengthen with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.

O Father, Son, and Spirit blest, to thee be every prayer addressed,
who art in threefold name adored, from age to age, the only Lord.

Prayer over the Gifts ³

God of good gifts,
receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel.
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal
as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus,
the wellspring of eternal life.

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, maker of light and darkness.

Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos,

brings a harvest out of sorrow

and leads the exiles home.

In Christ your Son enemies are reconciled,

debts forgiven,

and strangers made welcome.

Your Spirit frees us to live as daughters and sons in our God's house.

We who by Christ's power follow the way of the Cross,

sharing the joy of his obedience,

now 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.
 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.**

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, Holy One,
 for Christ in whom the world is reconciled.

When Jesus was lifted on the Cross,
 death was swallowed up in victory,
 that life and light might reign.

Before Jesus was given up to suffering and death,
 recalling the night of Israel's release,
 the night in which the sons of Egypt died,
 your Chosen One, himself the First-Born, freely offered his life.

At supper with his disciples Jesus took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

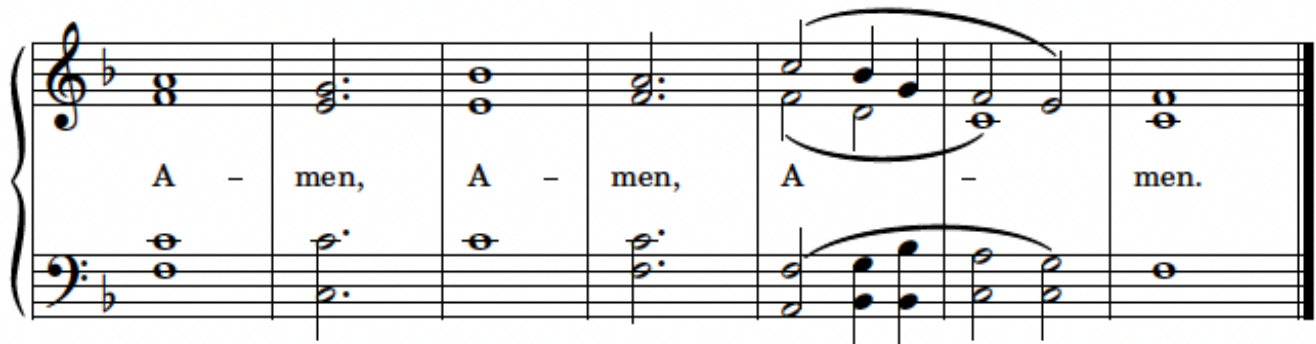
We now obey your Son's command,
recalling his passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of your reign.

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

Hear us, gracious God,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by your 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 sisters and brothers, 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, world without end.



Amen, Amen, Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

**who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is 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.**

**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.

The Breaking of the Bread ⁵

We break this bread,
Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.
**If we have died with Christ, we shall live with Christ.
If we hold firm, we shall reign with Christ.**

Come, all people:
this is Christ's table to which all are invited.
Come, for all is ready.
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 communion⁶:

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.

Forty Days and Forty Nights ⁷

**Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled:**

**burning heat throughout the day, bitter cold when light has fled,
prowling beasts around your way, stones your pillow, earth your bed.**

**Shall not we your trials share, learn your discipline of will,
and with you by fast and prayer wrestle with the powers of hell?**

**So if Satan, pressing hard, soul and body would destroy:
Christ who conquered, be our guard; give to us the victor's joy.**

**Saviour, may we hear your voice – keep us constant at your side;
and with you we shall rejoice at the eternal Eastertide.**

Prayer after Communion ⁸

Embodied God,
at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,
empower us to hear the needs of our neighbours
and touch the world with your love.

Amen.

Doxology ⁹

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

Solemn Prayer over the People

Let us bow down before the Lord.

Grant, Almighty God,
that we your people may recognize our weakness
and put our whole trust in your strength,
so that we may rejoice for ever
in the protection of your loving providence;
through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Now Let Us All with One Accord ¹⁰

Now let us all with one accord,
in company with ages past,
keep vigil with our heavenly Lord
in his temptation and his fast.

The covenant, so long revealed
to those of faith in former time,
Christ by his own example sealed,
the Lord of love, in love sublime.

Your love, O Lord, our sinful race
has not returned, but falsified.
Author of mercy, turn your face
and grant repentance for our pride.

Remember, Lord, though frail we be,
in your own image were we made;
help us, lest in anxiety, we cause
your name to be betrayed.

Therefore, we pray you, Lord, forgive;
so when our wanderings here shall cease,
we may with you for ever live,
in love and unity and peace.

Dismissal

Go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

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 the Church of the Incarnation, Oakville;
wider: Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;
Linda, our primate;
the Scottish Episcopal Church

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

Saj;
Pat;
Anne & Harvey;

For the needs of the world:

for the women and children of Afghanistan;
for the earthquake response in Türkiye and Syria;

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:

for those killed due to the earthquake in Türkiye and Syria

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



The Church of the Nativity

worshipwithnativity.org



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The Right Reverend Susan Bell
The Reverend Canon Matthew Griffin
The Reverend Canon David Linn
The Reverend Deacon Larry Collinson
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Bishop of Niagara
Rector
Honorary Assistant
Parish Deacon
Director of Music
Parish Administrator

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

Wardens

Sources

Our cover image:

JESUS MAFA. Jesus is tempted - Matthew 4:1-11, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48312> [retrieved February 1, 2023]. Original source: <http://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr> (contact page: <https://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr/contact>).

¹ Church of England, *Common Worship*. Affirmation Eg. cf *Philippians* 2.6—11

² Text: Latin (6th cent.); tr. Maurice E. Bell (1862—1947), alt. © Oxford UP. Music: *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543; adapt & harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685—1750). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

³ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁴ *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher. 2016.

⁵ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

⁶ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

⁷ Text: George Hunt Smyttan (1822—79), rev. *Hymns for Today’s Church*, © 1982 Hope Publishing, Inc. Music: melody attrib. Martin Herbst (1654—81); harm. William Henry Monk (1823—89). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁸ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁹ *Book of Alternative Services*.

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