

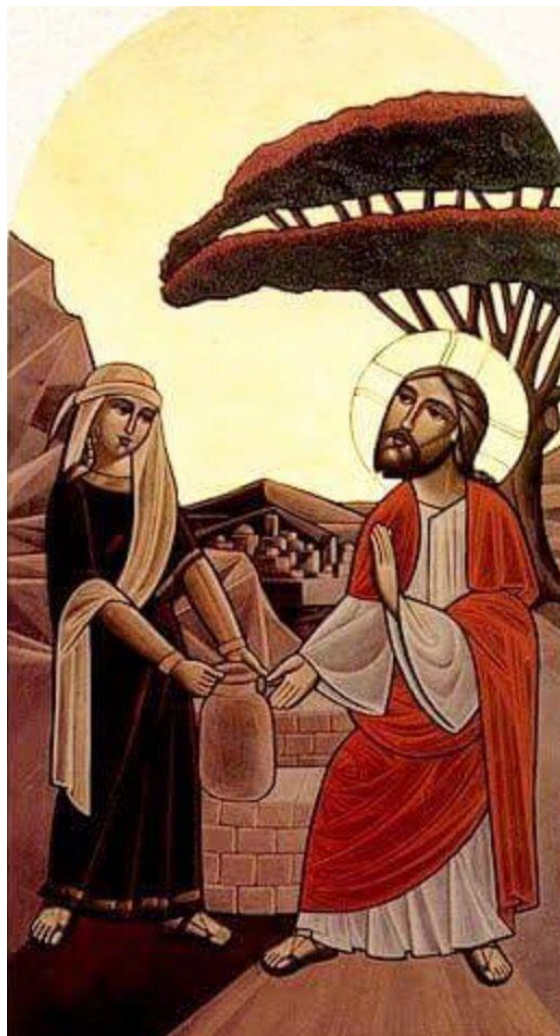


Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 12th, 2023



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.

Blessed be the Holy Trinity,
one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures for ever.
Amen.

Almighty God,
all hearts are open to you.
No secrets are hidden from you.
Purify us with the fire of your Holy Spirit
that we may love and worship you faithfully,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Let us admit to God the sin which always confronts us.

Merciful God,
we have sinned in thought, word, and deed:
we are truly sorry,
and repent and turn to you.
Renew our lives by your Spirit
in the image of Jesus Christ our Saviour,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you and set you free from sin,
and keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

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

The Collect ¹

Let us pray.

Lord of the wellspring,
source of life and truth:
give us the courage of the Samaritan woman,
so that we may receive living water,
and worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ
who quenches our thirst with eternal life,
and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading

The thirsty Israelites cry out for water in the wilderness.

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?'

But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.'

The LORD said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.'

Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

Exodus 17. 1—7

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before the presence of the Lord with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to God with psalms.**

For you, O Lord, are a great God,
and a great sovereign above all gods.

**In your hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are yours also.**

The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have moulded the dry land.

**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

For you are our God,
**and we are the people of your pasture
and the sheep of your hand.**

Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

“Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness,
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.

They put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

Forty years long I detested that generation and said,
‘This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not know my ways.’

**So I swore in my wrath,
‘They shall not enter into my rest.’”**

Paul tells of the results that come through faith in Christ.

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 5.1—11

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 John.

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

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him,

‘How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?’ (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, ‘If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, “Give me a drink”, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?’ Jesus said to her, ‘Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.’

Jesus said to her, ‘Go, call your husband, and come back.’ The woman answered him, ‘I have no husband.’ Jesus said to her, ‘You are right in saying, “I have no husband”; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.’

Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.’ The woman said to him, ‘I know that Messiah is coming’ (who is called Christ). ‘When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I am he, the one who is speaking to you.’

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, ‘What do you want?’ or, ‘Why are you speaking with her?’ Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ‘Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?’ They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, ‘Rabbi, eat something.’ But he said to them, ‘I have food to eat that you do not know about.’ So the disciples said to one another, ‘Surely no one has brought him something to eat?’ Jesus said to them, ‘My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say,

“Four months more, then comes the harvest”? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, “One sows and another reaps.” I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.’

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, ‘He told me everything I have ever done.’ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, ‘It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.’

John 4.5—42

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 Prayers of the People

V Merciful God,
R **receive our prayer.**

The Peace

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

Feasting at the Table

Offertory Hymn # 508

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say ⁴

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down thy head upon my breast.”
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one, stoop down and drink and live.”
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am this dark world's light;
look unto me; thy morn shall rise and all thy day be bright.”
I looked to Jesus and I found in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk till travelling days are done.**

If you wish to make a monetary gift, you can do so at any time by mailing a cheque to the church (1831 King Street East, Hamilton, ON L8K 1V8) or via e-transfer to donations.nativity@gmail.com

Prayer over the Gifts ⁵

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.

The Great Thanksgiving ⁶

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.
 Blessed 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.
 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.

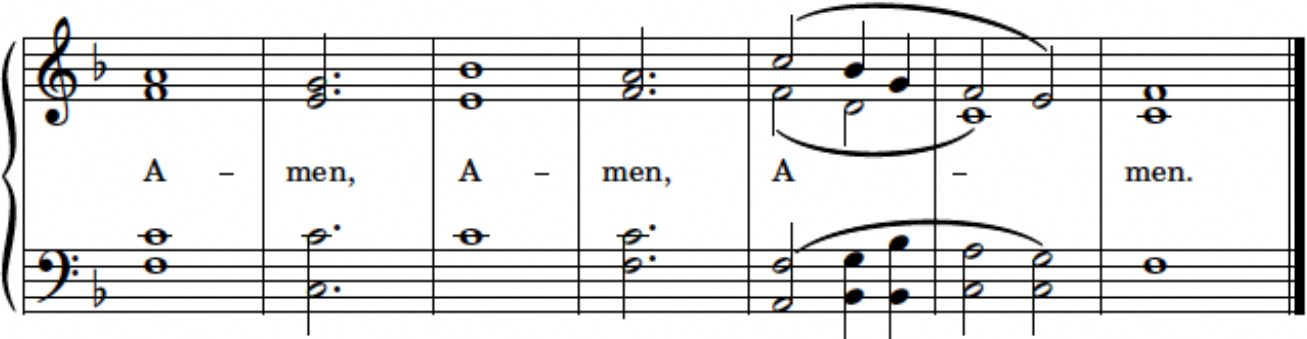
We now obey your Son's command,
recalling his passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of your reign.

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.

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.

The Breaking of the Bread ⁷

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 communion ⁸:

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 ⁹

Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest 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 Communion ¹⁰

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 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

Solemn Prayer over the People ¹²

Let us bow down before the Lord.

Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God,
that by your great goodness
they may be governed and preserved evermore;
through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken ¹³

**Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken formed thee for his own abode.
On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou mayest smile at all thy foes.**

**See! The streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint, when such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.**

**Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering – showing that the Lord is near.
Thus they march, the pillar leading, light by night, and shade by day;
daily on the manna feeding which God gives them when they pray.**

**Saviour, if of Zion's city I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity, I will glory in thy name.
Fading is the world's best pleasure, all its boasted pomp or show:
solid joys and lasting treasures none but Zion's children know.**

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 St. Cuthbert, Oakville;
wider: Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;
Linda, our primate;
the Church of the Province of South India;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

Peter & Cathy;
David & Karen;
Tom;

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

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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

Our cover image: a Coptic icon of Jesus encountering a Samaritan woman at the well.

¹ *Alternative Collects for Years A, B, & C of the Revised Common Lectionary and Seasonal Prayers over the Gifts and after Communion*. Liturgy Task Force. Faith, Worship, and Ministry Committee of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada.

² *A Liturgical Psalter: General Synod 2016 Edition*. Anglican Church of Canada.

³ Church of England, *Common Worship*. Affirmation E9. *cf* *Philippians* 2.6—11

⁴ Text: Horatius Bonar (1808—89). Music: Melody English trad.; coll. Lucy Broadwood (1858—1929). © Oxford UP. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁵ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁶ *The Scottish Liturgy 1982*. Scottish Episcopal Church. 1982, rev. 2022.

⁷ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

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

¹⁰ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹¹ *Book of Alternative Services*.

¹² *The Book of Occasional Services 2003*. 2004, Church Publishing Fund. The Episcopal Church.

¹³ Text: John Newton (1725—1807). Music: Franz Josef Haydn (1732—1809). Used under OneLicense A-604280.