



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

The Sunday of the Passion
with the Liturgy of the Palms

6 April 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.

Gathering

The congregation is encouraged to gather, milling about in the chapel—where there are seats—and in the narthex (lobby), and along the front walk. Pick up some palm fronds to wave! Some will pick up a frond and find a seat in the nave of the church.

Welcome

Hosanna to the Son of David!
Hosanna to the Son of David!

Grace, mercy, and peace,
from God the source of all being and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you.

Amen.

Dear Friends in Christ,
during Lent we have been preparing
for the celebration of our Lord's paschal mystery.
On this day our Lord Jesus Christ entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph.
The people welcomed with palms and shouts of praise,
but the path before him led to self-giving, suffering, and death.
Today we greet him as our king,
although we know his crown is thorns and his throne a cross.

We follow him this week from the glory of the palms
to the glory of the resurrection
by way of the dark road of suffering and death.
United with him in his suffering on the cross,
may we share his resurrection and new life.

I will give thanks to the Lord who answered me and has become my salvation.

The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

Hosanna, Lord, hosanna! Lord, send us now success.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;

we bless you from the house of the Lord.

God is the Lord and has shined upon us;

form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

Give thanks to the Lord who is good;

the mercy of the Lord endures for ever.

Let us pray.

All raise their palms in the air.

Holy and immortal God,

as we enter into this holy week,

turn our hearts to Jerusalem,

so that, united with Christ and all the faithful,

we may enter the city not made with hands,

your promised realm of justice and peace.

Let these branches be for us signs of Christ's victory,

and grant that we who bear them in his name

may ever hail him as our king,

following him in the way that leads to eternal life.

Amen.

All are invited to join in the procession following the clergy and server.

Let us go forth in peace.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

All Glory, Laud, and Honour ¹

Refrain: **All glory, laud, and honour
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.**

**Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest, the king and blessed One.**

Refrain...

**The company of angels are praising thee on high,
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.**

Refrain...

**The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present.**

Refrain...

**To thee, before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee now high exalted our melody we raise.**

Refrain...

**Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King!**

Refrain...

The Peace

Having offered our thanks and praise,
let us share in God's peace as we gather.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Compassionate God,
your love finds full expression
in the gift of Jesus Christ your Son,
who willingly met betrayal and death to set us free from sin.
Give us courage to live obediently in these days
until we greet the glory of our risen Saviour Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Holy Scripture

1st Reading

Help us, O God, to listen to your prophet Isaiah tell of the servant submitting to suffering.

The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backwards.

I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face

from insult and spitting.

The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

It is the Lord GOD who helps me;

who will declare me guilty?

Isaiah 50.4--9a

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Affirmation of Faith²

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 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.

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this,

“The Lord needs them.” And he will send them immediately.’ This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,
‘Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,
‘Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!’

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, ‘Who is this?’ The crowds were saying, ‘This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.’

Matthew 21.1—11

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

The Prayers of the People

✠ Merciful God,
✠ **receive our prayer.**

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Offertory Hymn #184

My Song Is Love Unknown³

My song is love unknown, my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.

Oh, who am I, that for my sake
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?

He came from his blest throne salvation to bestow;
but all made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know:
but O my friend, my friend indeed,
who at my need his life did spend.

Sometimes they strew his way, and his sweet praises sing,
resounding all the day hosannas to their King;
then "Crucify!" is all their breath,
and for his death they thirst and cry.

Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise.

They rise and needs will have my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save, the Prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes,
that he his foes from thence might free.

Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine,
never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine!
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!

Prayer over the Gifts ⁴

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 ⁵

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 joy and destiny to praise you, Lord God,
for in wondrous love you cast stars into space,
and in meek obedience your Son surrendered to cruel nails.
With loving kindness you called your people in Abraham and Sarah,
and in covenant with Moses and Miriam you bound up your life in theirs.
Through exile you stayed close to them,
and in Jesus you came among them
bearing the fullness of grace and truth.
Your Son Jesus faced rejection, cruelty, and death,
yet in resurrection you exalted him,
and in sending your Spirit you shed glory on all people.
And so we rejoice with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
singing the song of your unending praise.

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 is our cry, Blessed One.
 Your Son comes on a donkey in your name.
 As Jesus entered Jerusalem
 to bear our sorrows and suffer for our sins,
 enter our hearts and confront our waywardness today.
 Send your Holy Spirit upon us,
 that we may be your Son's crucified and risen body.

Send your Spirit upon this bread that it may be living bread,
and on this wine that it may be the cup of salvation,
that together they may be for us the body and blood of your Son 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 for 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.

Humble God,

your Son did not exploit his status but emptied himself.

Pour out your Spirit on all who are exploited, in world or church,
on all who are humbled, by state or employer or family member,
on all who are emptied of hope, faith, or love.

As you highly exalted your Son who had become a slave,
highly exalt your children who suffer for righteousness,
or grieve those they have cherished,
or bend the knee to one who does not honour them.

Fill the earth with your justice and peace,
until every heart shall sing and every tongue confess
that you are the joy of their desiring,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
ever one God, in all ages and forevermore.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.
Amen.

We keep silent and pray for a short time.

The Breaking of the Bread⁶

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.

Communion

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 ⁷:

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.

Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery⁸

verses 1, 2, 3, 6a

**Tree of life and awesome mystery, in your death we are reborn;
though you die in all of history, still you rise with every morn,
still you rise with every morn.**

**Seed that dies to rise in glory, may we see ourselves in you;
if we learn to live your story we may die to rise anew,
we may die to rise anew.**

**We remember truth one spoken, love passed on through act and word;
every person lost and broken wears the body of our Lord,
wears the body of our Lord.**

**Light of life beyond conceiving, mighty Spirit of our Lord;
give new strength to our believing, give us faith to live your word,
give us faith to live your word.**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and preserve you in eternal life.

Merciful God,
accompany our journey through these forty days.
**Renew us in the gift of baptism,
that we may provide for those who live in poverty,
pray for those in need,
fast from self-indulgence,
and find our treasure in the life of your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Parish Announcements

The Love that Clothes Itself in Light ¹⁰

The Love that clothes itself in light,
 stands naked now, despised, betrayed,
 receiving blows to face and head
 from hands that Love itself has made.

The Love that lifts the stars and sun,
 collapses, spent, beneath the cross;
 the Love that fills the universe,
 goes on to death and total loss.

Love, helpless, comes to Calvary,
 rejected, scorned and crucified;
 Love hangs in shame, and dies alone,
 but Love abased, is glorified.

Extinguished with the sun at noon,
 Love's light transcends all history;
 Love, wrapped in linen, Love entombed,
 still wraps all heaven in mystery.

Though Love is lost, Love finds us here;
 though Love is absent, Love remains;
 where Love is finished, Love begins;
 where Love is dead, Love lives and reigns!

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.
Christ humbled himself, and became obedient to death, even death on a cross.
Therefore God has highly exalted him
and given him the name that is above every name.

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

The passion gospel is read; due to its length, you may wish to remain seated.

After the gospel is read

The Passion of our Lord.

No response is made; a silence is kept.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;
by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

We preach Christ crucified,
the power of God and the wisdom of God.
by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

God forbid that I should glory,
save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;
by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Solemn Prayer over the People

Let us bow down before the Lord.

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family,
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ
was willing to be betrayed,
and given into the hands of sinners,
and to suffer death upon the cross;
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Holy Week Services

Wednesday in Holy Week:

10:00 am **Eucharist**

with anointing for healing

Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm **Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing
and Stripping of the Altar**

8:30—11:00 Gethsemane Watch in the Chapel

All are welcome to stay and to pray for as long as they wish in the chapel, where the eucharist is reserved until the next morning.

Good Friday

10:00 am **The Celebration of the Lord's Passion**

We hear and reflect on our Lord's Passion, venerate the Cross, and share in receiving the reserved sacrament.

Holy Saturday

9:00 pm **The Easter Vigil (at the Cathedral)**

Anglicans from all around Hamilton-Haldimand join in the solemn Easter Vigil with the lighting of the new fire, music, and the joyous proclamation of the resurrection.

Easter Day

8:00 am **Holy Eucharist of Easter Day**

10:00 am **Festal Holy Eucharist of Easter Day**



The Church of the Nativity

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@nativityniagara



bit.ly/NativityYT



1831 King St. East
Hamilton, ON L8K 1V8



(905) 549-4335



admin@worshipwithnativity.org

The Right Reverend Susan Bell
The Reverend Canon Matthew Griffin
The Reverend Canon David Linn
Ms. Monica Romig Green
Mr. Peter Harding
Mrs. Laura Brintnell

Bishop of Niagara
Rector
Honorary Assistant
Theological Intern
Director of Music
Parish Administrator

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

Wardens

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God,
and in loving memory of my beloved Joan
who went to be with our heavenly Father on August 5th, 2022.
Loved forever, never forgotten. - Jim*

Sources

Our cover image is a photo of a sculpture of Jesus mounting a donkey to enter Jerusalem. This sculpture stands in the courtyard of the Church of Bethphage on the Mount of Olives. The church contains a stone said to be the one Jesus used to mount the donkey, and the Palm Sunday processions of multiple Christian groups begins here each year. The photo is shared with us by Mrs. Lesley Griffin, and is used with her permission.

¹ Text: Theodulph of Orleans (750?—821), tr. John Mason Neale (1818—66), alt. Music: Melody Melchior Teschner (1584—1635); harm. William Henry Monk (1823—89).

² Philippians 2.6—11, *Common Worship*. Church of England

³ Text: Samuel Crossman, B.D. (1623?—84). Tune: John Ireland (1879—1962).

⁴ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁵ *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

⁶ *The Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

⁷ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

⁸ Text and Music: Marty Haugen (1950—). © 1984 GIA Publications. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁹ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹⁰ Text Alan Gaunt (1935—). © 1991 Stainer & Bell, Ltd. (Administered by Hope Publishing Co.) Music: Melody *Lochamer Liederbuch*, 1450?, alt.; harm. Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809—47), alt. Used under OneLicense A-604280.