



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Second Sunday of Easter

April 16th, 2023



WEB 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.

O Praise Ye the Lord ¹

O praise ye the Lord! Give praise in the height;
rejoice in God's Word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens, adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord! Give praise upon earth,
in tuneful accord, give thanks for new birth;
praise God who hath brought you all grace from above,
praise God who hath taught you the pathways of love.

O praise ye the Lord! all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, God's glory proclaim in deep tone,
and sweet harp, the story of what God hath done.

O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
be ever outpoured all ages along;
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!

Welcome

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen!
The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

May Christ's grace and peace be with you.
May Christ fill our hearts with joy.

Let us pray.

O God, our beginning and our end:
accept our doubts, heal our desire for certainty and,
by your Spirit's gentle touch, make us a people forgiven and forgiving;
through Jesus Christ, the Giver of Peace,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading

In the Acts of the Apostles, Peter proclaims the resurrection of Jesus.

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them:
'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and
listen to what I say.

'You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man
attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did
through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to
you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified
and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up,
having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in
its power. For David says concerning him,

"I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.
You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.”

‘Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,
“He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.”
This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

Acts 2. 14a, 22 – 32

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the Lord,
“You are my Lord, my good above all other.”
**All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.
**Their libations of blood I will not offer,
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.**

O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.
**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.**

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me, night after night.
**I have set the Lord always before me;
because you are at my side I shall not fall.**

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
**For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the Pit.**

You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your hand are pleasures for evermore.

We have a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

1 Peter 1. 3 – 9

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The acclamation is sung

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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.** ♪

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him,

‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

John 20.19—31

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

The Prayers of the People

✠ Risen Lord,
✠ **hear our prayer.**

The Peace

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

Feasting at the Table

Offertory Hymn # 371

To God Be the Glory ⁴

To God be the glory, who great things has done!
God so loved the world, freely sending the Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear God's voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
Oh, come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give God the glory, who great things has done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God:
that when the offender, repenting believes,
through Jesus' atonement, God's pardon receives. *Refrain...*

Great things God has taught us, great things God has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our gladness when Jesus we see! *Refrain...*

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

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self.
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.
In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One.
In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world;
through Jesus the Christ, our Saviour and Lord.
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.

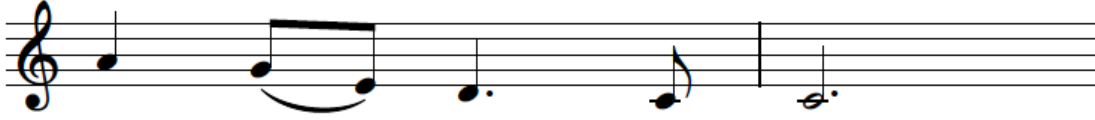
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter
and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels,
cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





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



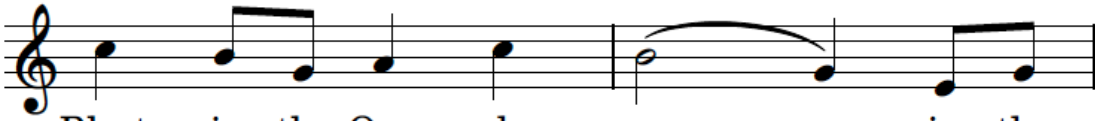
God of pow'r and might.



Heav'n 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,



ho - san - na in the high - est.

When the world was a formless void, you formed order and beauty.
When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child.
When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom.
Ruth faced starvation,
David fought Goliath,
the psalmists cried out for healing,
and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.
He was born among those living in poverty,
he lived under oppression,
he wept over the city.
With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

On the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.

Amen!

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

Amen!

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

Amen!

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.

O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.

O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.

O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic,
O God most motherly,
O God our strength and our song,
you show us a vision of a tree of life
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.

Grant us such life,
the life of the Father to the Son,
the life of the Spirit of our risen Saviour,
life in you, now and forever.



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.
Give us today our daily bread.

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.

**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.**

**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

Lord, we died with you on the cross.
Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.
**Now we share in your resurrection.
Live in us, that we may live in you.**

Jesus Christ, risen from the dead,
gives everyone a place at the welcome table.
Alleluia! Come to the feast, for all is now ready.
Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

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.

Dear Lord, We Long to See Your Face⁹

Dear Lord, we long to see your face,
to know you risen from the grave,
but we have missed the joy and grace
of seeing you, as others have;
yet in your company we'll wait,
and we shall see you, soon or late.

Dear Friend, we do not know the way,
nor clearly see the path ahead;
so often, therefore, we delay
and doubt your power to raise the dead;
yet we with you will firmly stay—
you are the truth, the life, the way.

We find it hard, Lord, to believe.
Long habit makes us want to prove:
to see, to touch, and thus perceive
the truth and person whom we love;
yet when in fellowship we meet,
you come yourself, each one to greet.

You come to us, our God, our Lord.
You do not show your hands and side,
but give, instead, your best reward
as in your promise we abide.
By faith we know, and grow, and wait
to see and praise you, soon or late.

Doxology¹⁰

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together.
Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Doxology¹¹

Generous God,
you have fed us at your heavenly table.
Kindle us with the fire of your Spirit
that when the Lord comes again
we may shine as lights before him,
who is alive and reigns in glory for ever.
Amen.

Parish Announcements

Blessing

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,
your sweetest notes employ,
the paschal victory to hymn
in strains of holy joy.

For Judah's Lion bursts his chains,
crushing the serpent's head;
and cries aloud through death's domains
to wake the imprisoned dead.

Devouring depths of hell their prey
at his command restore;
his ransomed hosts pursue their way
where Jesus goes before.

Triumphant in his glory now
to him all power is given;
to him in one communion bow
all saints in earth and heaven.

All glory to the Father be,
all glory to the Son,
all glory, Holy Ghost to thee,
while endless ages run.

Dismissal

Alleluia, Alleluia! Go in peace! Serve the Risen One!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, 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 All Saints Mission, Hamilton;
wider: Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;
Linda, our primate;
the Anglican Church of Tanzania;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

Pam;
Alexandra;
Sherry-Lee & Raymond;

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:

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

Mrs. Jan Collinson
Mr. David Eccles

Wardens

Sources

Our cover image is a photograph of a mosaic in the Resurrection Chapel of Washington National Cathedral. LeCompte, Rowan and Irene LeCompte. Christ shows himself to Thomas, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54879> [retrieved April 10, 2023]. Original source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/maryannsolari/5119341372/>

¹ Text: Ps. 150, para. Henry Williams Baker (1821—77), alt. To the tune HANOVER. Music: William Croft (1678—1727).

² *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* (2009), alt. From *Alternative Collects* from the Anglican Church of Canada.

³ *A Liturgical Psalter: General Synod 2016 Edition*. Anglican Church of Canada.

⁴ Text: Fanny Crosby (1820—1915), alt. *The Book of Praise*, 1997. Rev. © 1996 The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Music: William Howard Doane (1832—1915). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁵ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁶ *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

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: J.R. Peacey (1896—1971). © 1991 Hope Publishing Co. Music to the tune ST. CATHERINE (ST. FINBAR), Henri F. Hemy (1818—88); adapt. James G. Walton (1821—1905). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹⁰ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹¹ Church of Wales.

¹² Text: Fulbert of Chartres (?—1028); tr. Robert Campbell (1814—68). Music: Henry John Gauntlett (1805—76). Used under OneLicense A-604280.