

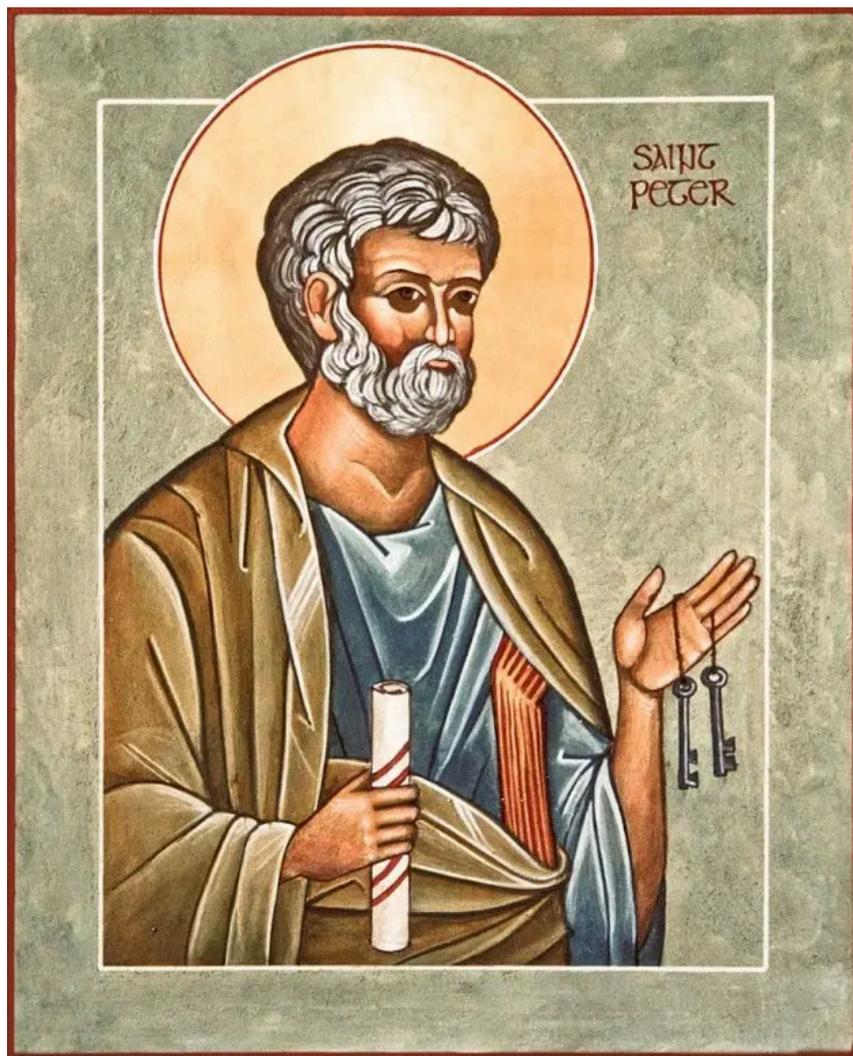


Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

The 13th Sunday after Pentecost

27 August 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.

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:
All ye who hear, brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth:
hast thou not see how thy entreaties have been
granted in what he ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee:
ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if with his love he befriend thee.**

**Praise to the Lord, who, when tempests their warfare are waging,
who, when the elements madly around thee are raging,
biddeth them cease, turneth their fury to peace,
whirlwinds and waters assuaging.**

**Praise to the Lord, who when darkness of sin is abounding,
who when the godless do triumph, all virtue confounding,
sheddeth his light, chaseth the horrors of night,
saints with his mercy surrounding.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen sound from his people again:
gladly for aye we adore him.**

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.

Let us pray.

Living God, you accept our stumbling faith,
our misplaced answers, our false horizons,
and through them you build a way of peace.

Empower and enable us
to bind the wounds of the world
and loose the bonds of oppression,
so that all may confess the grace that is your work alone; through Jesus
Christ, your anointed one,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, 'Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.' Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, 'When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.' But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of

Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, ‘Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?’ The midwives said to Pharaoh, ‘Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.’ So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, ‘Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.’

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. ‘This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,’ she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, ‘Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?’ Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, ‘Yes.’ So the girl went and called the child’s mother. Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, ‘Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.’ So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, ‘because’, she said, ‘I drew him out of the water.’

Exodus 1.8—2.10

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

If the Lord had not been on our side, let Israel now say;
**if the Lord had not been on our side,
when enemies rose up against us;**

then would they have swallowed us up alive
in their fierce anger toward us;
**then would the waters have overwhelmed us
and the torrent gone over us;**

then would the raging waters have gone right over us.
**Blessed be the Lord
who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.**

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
**Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

2nd Reading

A reading from the letter to the followers of Jesus in Rome.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually

we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Romans 12.1—8

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah;
hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah;
hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

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.** ♪

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’ And Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.’ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Matthew 16.13—20

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

Let us affirm the faith we share.

**We trust in God, who has created and is creating;
who came to us in Jesus, the word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new;
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.**

**We believe we are called to be God's people:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus' death and resurrection
by word and deed.**

**We live in hope because in life, in death, in life beyond death,
we are not alone: God is with us. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

V God, in your love,
R hear our prayer.

Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy,
welcoming sinners and inviting us to this table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Steadfast and faithful God,
**you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed
by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbour, forgive us.
Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.**

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

Amen.

The Peace

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

Feasting at the Table

Teach Us To Love Your Word, Lord ⁶

Refrain:

Teach us to love your word, Lord;
let it cleanse us through and through.
As we open our hearts to obey you,
break us, remake us anew

Your people were slaves in Egypt;
your mighty word set them free.
Calling them into a new land,
you led them safe through the sea. *Refrain...*

When we were yet not a people,
your word gathered us in.
You made of us a new nation
to praise you in wonder and love. *Refrain...*

Teach us to walk in your way, Lord.
Your kindness to us sets us free,
turns us to love one another,
sharing your mercy and peace. *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 ⁷

God of field and forest, sea and sky,
you are the giver of all good things.
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,
and multiply your graciousness in us,
that the world may be fed with your love,
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving ⁸

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.

We lift our hearts and give thanks and praise to you,
God of our mothers and fathers,
because you brought order out of chaos,
you called a people to be your own,
and in Moses you saw the misery of your people and heard their cries.
In Elijah and the prophets you pleaded with your people
to be true to their identity as your chosen ones,
and finally in Jesus you came down
to deliver us from sin and death and oppression
through the obedience of the cross and the glory of the resurrection.
And so we gladly thank you,
joining with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven
to sing the hymn of your unending praise.



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est,
 ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bles-sed 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,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

We thank and praise you, Lord God,
because in the power of your Holy Spirit
you give us everything we need to follow you—
gifts of prophecy, ministry, exhortation,
generosity, leadership, and compassion.

Send down your Holy Spirit upon us now,
that we may not be conformed to the world
but transformed by your renewing grace.

Give us your very self in these gifts of bread and wine,
and make them 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 of 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.

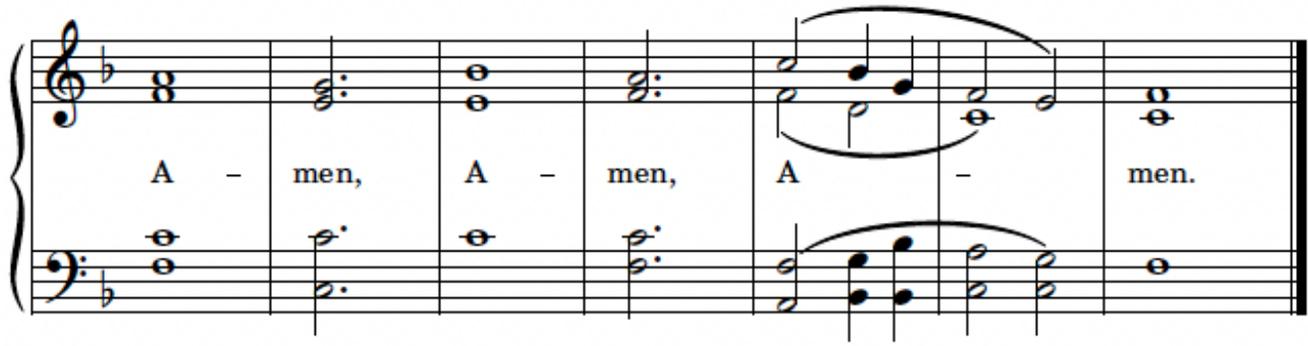
Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

God of deliverance,
you open up the gift of your scripture
to reveal who you are and who we are.
Through the gift of your holy communion,
bring your whole creation into the form of your likeness.
Have mercy on those who are oppressed,
be close to all who live under hostile regimes,
and hear the cries of all whose children are in constant danger.

Make us a subversive people
who incubate your exodus and practice divine disobedience,
until the day comes when all the world praises your name
and is filled with your justice and peace.
We pray in union with Christ in the power of your Holy Spirit,
God of glory, forever and ever.



The musical score is written for piano in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of six measures. The first two measures are marked with a repeat sign. The lyrics 'A - men, A - men, A - men.' are placed below the treble clef staff. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with some accompaniment in the bass clef. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

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 ⁹

Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat,
whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread.
**So may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your reign of justice and peace.**

All people are called to Christ's table.
Come, eat what is good.
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 ¹⁰:

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.

Communion Hymn # 73

One Bread, One Body¹¹

Refrain:

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless—
and we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.**

**Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. *Refrain...***

**Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. *Refrain...***

**Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all. *Refrain...***

Prayer after Communion¹²

We thank you, generous God,
for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table.
Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,
through the one who is our dearest treasure,
Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

Amen.

Doxology¹³

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

Recessional Hymn # 527

How Firm a Foundation ¹⁴

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he has said,
to you who to Jesus for refuge have fled?**

**“Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed!
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.**

**When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.**

**When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.**

**The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not—I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake,
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake!”**

Dismissal

**Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!
Thanks be to God!**

Potluck!



Bring a dish!

After the 10 o'clock service on **September 10th**, join the Nativity's fall potluck lunch!

Your Daily Prayers are Requested:

For the Church:

our Bishop: † Susan;
our diocese: all the people of the Diocese of Niagara;
diocesan cycle: All Saints, Welland;
wider: Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;
Linda, our primate;
Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

Kim; Arlene; Mike & Lori;

For the needs of the world:

For peace:

Ukraine, Sudan, South Sudan, 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

worshipwithnativity.org



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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
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

Wardens

Sources

Our cover image is an icon of St. Peter.

¹ Text: Joachim Neander (1650—1680); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827—78), alt. Music: *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Straslund, 1665, alt. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

² *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* (2008), alt. From *Alternative Collects* from the Anglican Church of Canada.

³ *A Liturgical Psalter* (2016). General Synod from the Anglican Church of Canada.

⁴ *Celebrate God's Presence* (2000), The United Church of Canada.

⁵ *Invitation & Absolution: Book of Alternative Services. Confession: Sundays and Seasons.*

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⁷ *Sundays and Seasons.*

⁸ *Eucharistic Prayers* (2006). Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

⁹ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

¹⁰ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

¹¹ Text & Music: John B. Foley, SJ (1939—). © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ, and New Dawn Music. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹² *Sundays and Seasons.*

¹³ Church of Wales.

¹⁴ Text: John Rippon (1751—1836), called “K” in *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787. Music: Tune: St. Denio: Healey Willan (1880—1968), © 1994 Waterloo Music Inc. Used under OneLicense A-604280.