

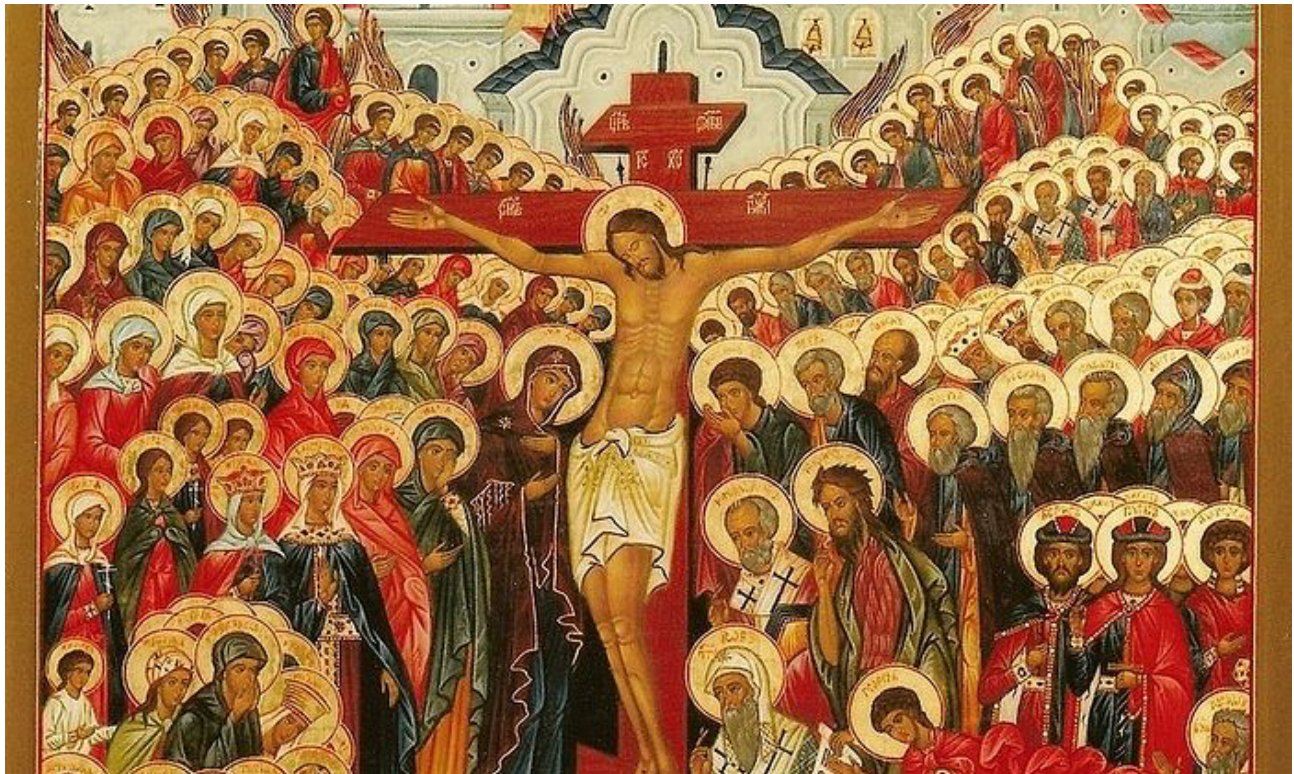


Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

November 5th, 2023

The Feast of All Saints



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.

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.

Rise Up, O Saints of God¹

**Rise up, O saints of God! From vain ambitions turn;
Christ rose triumphant that your hearts with nobler zeal might burn.**

**Speak out, O saints of God! Despair engulfs earth's frame;
as heirs of God's baptismal grace the word of hope proclaim.**

**Rise up, O saints of God! The kingdom's task embrace;
redress sin's cruel consequence; give justice larger place.**

**Give heed, O saints of God! Creation cries in pain;
stretch forth your hand of healing now, with love the weak sustain.**

**Commit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod,
and, quickened by the Spirit's power, rise up, O saints of God.**

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.

God of all people, from every tribe and language,
you called true witnesses
who sang your praise, lived your grace and worked for peace.
May we share their faith and live by their example,
so that we might be a blessing to the hunger of your world;
through Jesus Christ, whose body we are,
and who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

Amen.

Holy Scripture

1st Reading

A reading from the Revelation to St. John.

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

‘Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!’

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing,

‘Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honour

and power and might

be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.’

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, ‘Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?’ I said to him, ‘Sir, you are the one that knows.’ Then he said to me, ‘These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.’

For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

Revelation 7.9—17

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

I will bless the Lord at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.
I will glory in the Lord; let the humble hear and rejoice.

Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;
let us exalt the name of God together.
**I sought the Lord, who answered me
and delivered me out of all my terror.**

Look upon God and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.
**I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.**

The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear God
and will deliver them.
**Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in God!**

Fear the Lord, you holy ones of God,
for those who fear God lack nothing.
**The young lions lack and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.**

O Lord, you redeem the life of your servants,
and none will be punished who trust in you.

A reading from the first letter of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

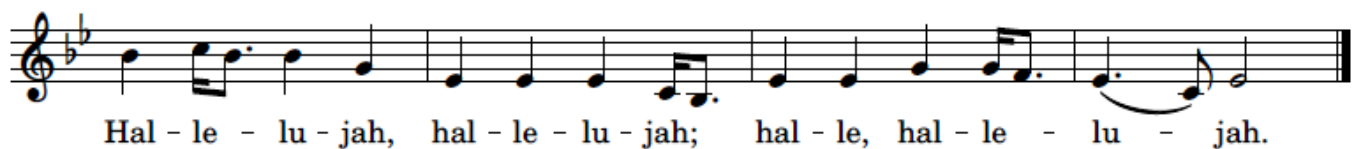
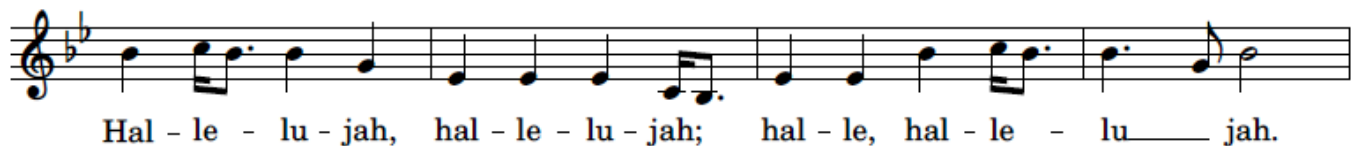
1 John 3:1—3

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

The acclamation is sung



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 Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

‘Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

‘Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

‘Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 5.1—12

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

God the Father, creator of heaven and earth:

have mercy upon us.

God the Son, redeemer of the world:

have mercy upon us.

God the Holy Spirit, sanctifier of the faithful:

have mercy upon us.

Holy Trinity, one God:

have mercy upon us.

Holy Abraham and Sarah,

our ancestors in faith;

Holy Moses the lawgiver, Aaron the priest, and Miriam the prophet;

and all saints who have journeyed into the unknown,

trusting God's promises:

Pray for us.

Holy Esther and Deborah,

saviours of their nation;

Holy Hannah and Ruth,

whose love and devotion bore witness to the faithfulness of God;

Holy Isaiah, John the Baptist, Simeon, Anna, and all the prophets,

and all saints who have obeyed God's call with joy:

Pray for us.

Holy Mary the Virgin,

the mother of our Lord;

Holy Joseph,

guardian of the Incarnate Word;

Holy Mary Magdalene, Salome, and Mary,

first witnesses of the resurrection,

and all saints who bore faithful witness to Christ:

Pray for us.

Holy Peter and Paul,
and all the Holy apostles,
Holy Barnabas, Silas, and Timothy,
Holy Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John,
and all saints who have brought the faith of Christ alive in every generation:

Pray for us.

Holy Athanasius and John Chrysostom;
Holy Stephen, Agnes, Lucy, Perpetua, Felicity,
and the whole army of martyrs;
Holy Julian of Norwich, Bridget of Sweden and Teresa of Avila,
Holy Richard Hooker and Lancelot Andrewes,
and all saints who have enabled us to reflect on the mystery of Christ:

Pray for us.

Holy Martin Luther King, Oscar Romero, and Jonathan Daniels,
and all martyrs and peacemakers of our own time;
Holy unsung heroes and heroines of our faith,
whose names are known to God alone:

Pray for us.

Holy Mollie Brant, Henry Budd,
John Stuart, Edmund Peck,
Robert Machray, Jean de Brébeuf,
Hannah Grier Coome, Roberta Elizabeth Tilton,
and all the saints of the lands and territories of North America:

Pray for us.

Holy saints of our own communities in ages past
who have revealed to us the love of God
and shown to us the way of holiness:

Pray for us.

Let us rejoice and honour them with thankful hearts,
and glorify our God, in whom they put their trust.

Lead us to join You in your work of renewing and recreating this world.
Inspire us to share your water of life
and serve as your ambassadors of reconciliation
with nations, peoples, and our fragile ecosystems.

God, hear our prayer.

Fill your church and your world with your life-giving Spirit,
that your justice, grace, and truth may burn in our hearts.

God, hear our prayer.

Bring your healing power to all who are unwell;
bless all who tend to others;
comfort those who are dying.

God, hear our prayer.

Renew in us the commitment we made to you in baptism.
Teach us to love others in the power of the Spirit.
Send us into the world in witness to your love;
bring us to the fullness of your peace and glory.

Make us your saints, O God.

Grant, O Lord,
that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son
may live in the power of his resurrection
and look for him to come again in glory;
who lives and reigns now and forever.

Amen.

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, source and sustainer of life, for the gift of water.
This is the water your Spirit stirred at the dawn of creation,
separating the soil from the sea,
and calling forth a humanity fashioned to bear your image.

This is the water through which you delivered twelve tribes
enslaved to the powers of empire and oppression.
You made a covenant with them in the wilderness beyond the Red Sea,
and led them through the Jordan into a land of promise,
uniting them as one people,
chosen to display your liberating power for all held in captivity.

This is the water sprinkled upon a people in exile,
gifting them with a new heart and a new spirit,
gathering them together from north and south, east and west,
a fulfillment of your promise
to restore those who weep in despair to the joy and dignity of hope.

This is the water in which Jesus, Redeemer of the world,
was baptized and named as your beloved child.

This is the water that takes its course
from the wounded side of Christ crucified,
the living water that bursts tomb-sealing rock,
giving rise to the new creation,
and birthing from every tongue and nation a people consecrated to you.

This is the water of life that springs forth in that city
where you dwell with a multitude beyond number,
united in the One whom they worship to the end of time and for ever.

Gathered around this font,
and surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses,
we ask you to stir the waters once again
by the movement of your Holy Spirit.

From these waters,
raise up a people hungry for justice and peace,
one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
a sign of your promise for all creation,
until Christ comes in final victory
and we feast at the promised and eternal banquet.

We pray in communion with all the saints on earth and heaven,
with the martyrs and the faithful of all ages,
and in the name of the Lamb who was slain,
but now reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
above all rule and authority, power and dominion,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

Let us renew the promises we made in baptism,
when we rejected Satan and all his works,
and promised to serve God faithfully
in God's holy catholic Church,
and when God washed us
and numbered us among the saints.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil
and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

Sprinkling Hymn # 439

Blest Are the Pure in Heart ⁴

**Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God;
the secret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's abode.**

**The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring,
to dwell in lowliness with us, our pattern and our King,**

**still to the lowly soul his presence doth impart,
and for a dwelling and a throne chooseth the pure in heart.**

**Lord, we Your presence seek; may ours this blessing be:
give us a pure and lowly heart, a temple fit for thee.**

God the creator, the rock of our salvation,
has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit,
and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins,
through our Lord Jesus Christ.
May he keep us faithful to our calling, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Peace

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

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Offertory Hymn # 501

Through All the Changing Scenes of Life ⁵

**Through all the changing scenes of life, in trouble and in joy,
the praises of my God shall still my heart and tongue employ.**

**O magnify the Lord with me, exalt the sacred name;
when in distress to heaven I called, God to my rescue came.**

**The guardian hosts encamp around the dwellings of the just;
deliverance they provide to all who in God's shelter trust.**

**O make but trial of God's love; experience will decide
how blest and favoured are they all who in this love confide!**

**Fear God, you saints, and you will then have nothing else to fear;
let service be your life's delight, your wants shall be God's care.**

**To Father, Son, and Spirit blest, the God whom we adore,
be glory, as it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

Prayer over the Gifts ⁶

God of all goodness,
generations have turned to you,
gathered around your table,
and shared your abundant blessings.

Number us among them that,
as we gather these gifts from your abundance,
and give thanks for your rich blessings,
we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made,
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

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.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Creating and redeeming God,

in Adam, Abraham, and Moses, in Deborah, Esther, and Mary,

you have chosen not simply to direct the course of events

but to be in relationship with us

and to entrust your children

with the embodiment and exercise of your will.

In the dying and rising Christ

you give us not just a saviour but an example,

and in every generation

you call people to imitate the pattern of his life and death

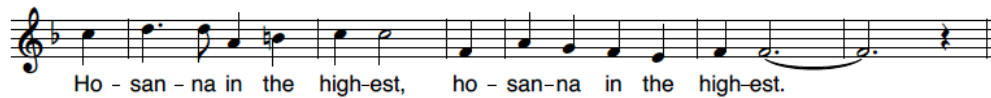
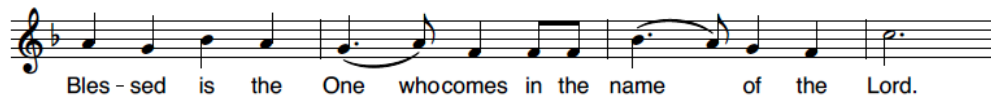
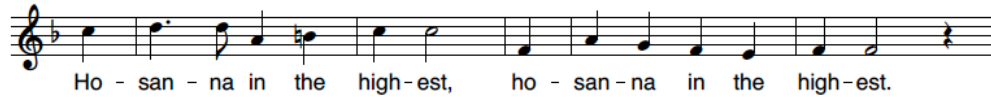
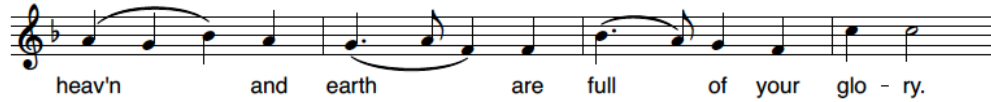
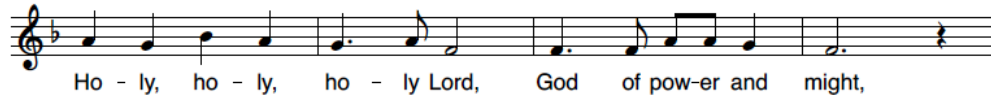
and so to witness to your glory.

You call us to be not heroes who go it alone

but saints whose every breath depends on others and on you.

We rejoice that those saints take their place in the company of heaven,

with whom we join in singing the unending hymn of your joy and praise.



**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.**

Transforming God,
in this gathering you take the fruit of the vine and human hands
and make them a blessing for your people now and forever.

As our earthly bodies decay and die,
and resemble your Son's body taken down from the cross,
send your Spirit and remake us in the image of your Son's resurrected body,
that our scars may become signs of your glory
and our hearts may be one with yours.

Sanctify this bread and cup
that 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 all 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.

Resurrecting God, bless those who mourn,
that they may be comforted.

Bless the poor in spirit,
that they may inherit the kingdom of heaven.

Bless the pure in heart,
that they may see you.

Visit those who face death and persecution and violence,
that they may know the gladness and rejoicing of your reign.

Be close to any who end their days in agony and isolation,
that they may enter the joy of their reward.

Where your children feel all is lost,
meet them in their fear,
touch them in their loneliness,
and raise them by your mercy,
so that on the last day,
when you bring a new heaven and a new earth,
they may discover you as an infinite circle
whose centre is everywhere and whose circumference is nowhere,
and be changed from glory into glory,
with and by you,
one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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A musical score for a piano accompaniment of the word 'Amen'. The score is written on two staves, treble and bass clef, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with some accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics 'A - men, A - men, A - men.' are written below the notes. The first two measures are marked with a repeat sign. The final measure has 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.**

Amen.

We keep silent and pray for a short time.

**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**

The Breaking of the Bread⁸

'I am the bread of life,' says the Lord.
'Whoever comes to me will never be hungry;
whoever believes in me will never thirst.'
**Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in God!**

There is a place for you at the banquet.
Come and feast at Jesus' table.
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 communion¹⁰:*

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.

From the falter of breath, through the silence of death,
to the wonder that's breaking beyond;
God has woven a way, unapparent by day,
for all those of whom heaven is fond.

From frustration and pain, through hope hard to sustain,
to the wholeness here promised, there known;
Christ has gone where we fear and has vowed to be near
on the journey we make on our own.

From the dimming of light, through the darkness of night,
to the glory of goodness above;
God the Spirit is sent to ensure heaven's intent
is embraced and completed in love.

From today till we die, through all questioning why,
to the place from which time and tide flow;
angels tread on our dreams, and magnificent themes
of heaven's promise are echoed below.

Prayer after Communion¹²

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet.
Sustain us on the journey,
strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,
and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

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

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

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
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,
especially after synod's meeting this weekend;

diocesan cycle: Church of the Apostles, Guelph;
Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;
Linda, our primate;

Anglican cycle: La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

Elsa;
Brad & Darlene;
Richard, Pearl, and Kathleen;

For the needs of the world

For peace:

for Ukraine; for the people of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh),
and for an end to the conflict between Azerbaijan and
Armenia; for the people of Palestine and Israel;
and for 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

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

Bishop of Niagara
Rector
Honorary Assistant
Director of Music
Parish Administrator

Mrs. Jan Collinson
Mr. David Eccles

Wardens

Sources

Our cover image this morning is a detail from an icon of All Saints.

¹ Music: William Henry Monk (1823—89). Text: Norman O. Forness (1936—), ©. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

² From *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*, from *Alternative Collects* prepared by the Liturgy Task Force.

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

⁴ Text: st.1,4, John Keble (1792—1866), alt.; st. 2-3, *Mitre Hymn Book*, 1836, alt. Music: Melody John Balthasar König (1691—1758).

⁵ Text: Psalm 34.1—9; para. Nahum Tate (1652—1715) & Nicholas Brady (1659—1726), *New Version*, 1696, alt. Music: George Smart (1776—1867). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁶ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁷ *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2016.

⁸ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

⁹ *Sundays and Seasons*.

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: John L. Bell (1949—); © 1988 WGRG *The Iona Community*. Music: Melody Scottish trad.; arr. George Black (1931—2003). ©. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹² *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹³ *An Order for the Holy Eucharist 2004*. Church in 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.