



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

January 14th, 2024

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany



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.

Processional Hymn # 508
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say ¹

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

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

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

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.

Opening Acclamation ²

Perfect Light of revelation,
as you shone in the life of Jesus,
so shine in us and through us,
that we may become beacons of truth and compassion,
enlightening all creation with deeds of justice and mercy.
Amen.

Let us pray.

Insistent God,

by night and day you summon your slumbering people:

so stir us with your voice

and enlighten our lives with your grace

that we give ourselves fully to Christ's call to mission and ministry;

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, in glory everlasting.

Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And

Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.' Then the LORD said to Samuel, 'See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfil against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house for ever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering for ever.'

Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, 'Samuel, my son.' He said, 'Here I am.' Eli said, 'What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.' So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, 'It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him.'

As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

1 Samuel 3.1—20

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

Lord, you have searched me out and known me.
**You know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

You trace my journeys and my resting-places
and are acquainted with all my ways.
**Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.**

You press upon me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.
**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**

For you yourself created my inmost parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
**I will thank you because I am marvellously made;
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.**

My body was not hidden from you, while I was being made in secret and
woven in the depths of the earth.
**Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book;**

they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was none of them.
**How deep I find your thoughts, O God!
How great is the sum of them!**

If I were to count them,
they would be more in number than the sand;
**to count them all,
my life span would need to be like yours.**

A reading from the first letter to followers of Jesus in Corinth.

‘All things are lawful for me’, but not all things are beneficial. ‘All things are lawful for me’, but I will not be dominated by anything. ‘Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food’, and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, ‘The two shall be one flesh.’ But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

1 Corinthians 6.12—20

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God,
glo - ry in the high - est!
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God,
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.** ♪

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig

tree? You will see greater things than these.’ And he said to him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.’

John 1.43—51

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

The Prayers of the People

✠ God of grace,
✠ **receive our prayer.**

Confession and Absolution ⁵

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

**God, our rock and refuge,
we pour out our hearts before you.**

We have known you but have not always loved you.

We have wounded one another and sinned against you.

**We have not always recognized
the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us.**

Remember your covenant.

Renew your creation.

Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you,
✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sin,
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

Offertory Song
We Are Called to Follow Jesus⁶

**When pain of the world surrounds us with darkness and despair,
when searching just confounds us with false hopes everywhere,
when lives are starved for meaning and destiny is bare,
we are called to follow Jesus and let God's healing flow through us.**

**We see with fear and trembling our aching world in need,
confessing to each other our wastefulness and greed.
May we with steadfast caring the hungry children feed.
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's justice flow through us.**

**The church is a holy vessel the living waters fill
to nourish all the people, God's purpose to fulfill.
May we with humble courage be open to God's will.
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's Spirit flow through us.**

**We praise you for our journey and your abundant grace,
your saving word that guided a struggling human race.
O God, with all creation, your future we embrace.
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's changes flow through us.**

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

Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you.
In bread and cup you open heaven to us.
Meet us at this table,
that we receive what we seek
and follow your Son, Jesus,
in whose name we pray.
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.
Summoning God, we thank and praise you
because over and over again you call your people

to hear your voice and entrust our lives to you.
You make a temple of encounter in our bodies
and a tent of meeting in the body of your Son.
You sing to us through the Law and the Prophets,
and when we close our ears, you speak through a little child.
Should we find the voice or the timing or the place of your vocation
too strange to understand, you bid us simply to come and see.
And so with heaven open and angels and archangels
ascending and descending around your throne,
we join the song of your eternal glory.



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



God of power and might,



heaven 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.



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, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

Holy God, in baptism you have made our bodies parts of your Son's body.
In his death we have died with him, and in his resurrection
you have given us the freedom of the glory of your children.
Take the brokenness of our flesh,
and through the power of your Spirit
make your church a temple of your living presence
and a crucible of encounter and reconciliation with you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine
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 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.

Merciful God, in Christ you call us
from our places of belonging and safety
to the adventure of your kingdom and the wonder of your mission.
Bless all who today have nowhere to lay their head,
no community in which to belong,
no good work through which to serve,
and no future for which to hope.

In the power of your Spirit,
Andrew found Simon and Philip found Nathanael:
send companions to any who experience life
as isolation, defeat, or disgrace.
Make your church a sheepfold where
the bewildered may enter a home,
the abandoned may discover a welcome,
the tired may find rest,
and the imprisoned may be set free,
until the last traces of discord disappear from your creation
and you are all in all, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



A musical score for the hymn "Amen, Amen, Amen." The score is written for a grand piano, with a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 8/8. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics "A - men, A - men, A - men." are written below the notes. The score consists of six measures. The first two measures are marked with repeat signs. The third measure has a fermata over the word "A". The fourth measure has a fermata over the word "men." The fifth and sixth measures are marked with repeat signs.

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

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us, light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

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 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 # 439

Blest Are the Pure in Heart¹¹

**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; we ask this blessing be:
give us a pure and lowly heart, a temple fit for thee.**

Prayer after Communion¹²

Giver of every gift,
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
Raise us to life by your power
for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever.

Amen.

Doxology¹³

Glory to God,
whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Recessional Hymn # 434

The Love of Jesus Calls Us¹⁴

**The love of Jesus calls us our joyous praise to sing;
our deeply felt thanksgivings we now together bring,
for all God's many blessings, unasked yet still received,
and for the generations who faithfully believed.**

**The love of Jesus calls us, that we may always be
companions on a journey, where all the world may see
that serving Christ is freedom which time does not destroy;
where Christ's command is duty, and every duty joy.**

**The love of Jesus calls us to go where he would go,
to challenge all that limits, to change, to learn, to grow,
to know that Christ has freed us, that prisons are no more;
for those who seek his kingdom, Christ opens every door.**

**The love of Jesus calls us in swiftly changing days,
to be God's co-creators in new and wondrous ways;
that God with men and women may so transform the earth,
that love and peace and justice may give God's kingdom birth.**

Dismissal

**Go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Your Daily Prayers are Requested:

For the Church:

our Bishop: Susan;

our diocese: all the people of the Diocese of Niagara;

cycle: the staff of Cathedral Place;

wider: Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;

Linda, our primate;

the worldwide Anglican Communion, and in its cycle:
the Church of the Province of South East Asia;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

Hazel; Elaine & Brian, Kyle, Derek, & Trevor; June;

For the needs of the world:

For peace:

Ukraine, South Sudan, Yemen, Gaza, Palestine, Israel,
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

Facebook [facebook.com/Nativityniagara/](https://www.facebook.com/Nativityniagara/)

Twitter (X) [@nativityniagara](https://twitter.com/nativityniagara)

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/@nativityniagara>

Mailing Address 1831 King St. East
Hamilton, ON L8K 1V8

Telephone (905) 549-4335

Email 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 the painting “The Call to Samuel,” by artist Frank Wesley. The artist has granted permission for the non-commercial use of this image with attribution. For more information, visit www.frankwesleyart.com/

-
- ¹ Text: Horatius Bonar (1808—1889). Music: Melody English trad.; coll. Lucy Broadwood (1858—1929). Used under OneLicense A-604280.
- ² *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*.
- ³ *Alternative Collects for Years A, B, & C of the Revised Common Lectionary*. General Synod from the Anglican Church of Canada.
- ⁴ *A Liturgical Psalter* (2016). General Synod from the Anglican Church of Canada.
- ⁵ *Sundays and Seasons*.
- ⁶ Words & music: Jim Strathdee (1941—). © 1976 Desert Flower Music. Used under OneLicense A-604280.
- ⁷ *Sundays and Seasons*.
- ⁸ *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2016.
- 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: St. 1, 4, John Keble (1792—1866), alt.; st. 2—3, *Mitre Hymn Book*, 1836, alt. Music: Melody Johann Balthasar König (1691—1758); adapt. William Henry Havergal (1793—1870); desc. Derek Holman (1931–2019) ©. Used under OneLicense A-604280.
- ¹² *Sundays and Seasons*.
- ¹³ *Book of Alternative Services*.
- ¹⁴ Text: Herbert O’Driscoll (1928—a). Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810—76). Used under OneLicense A-604280.