

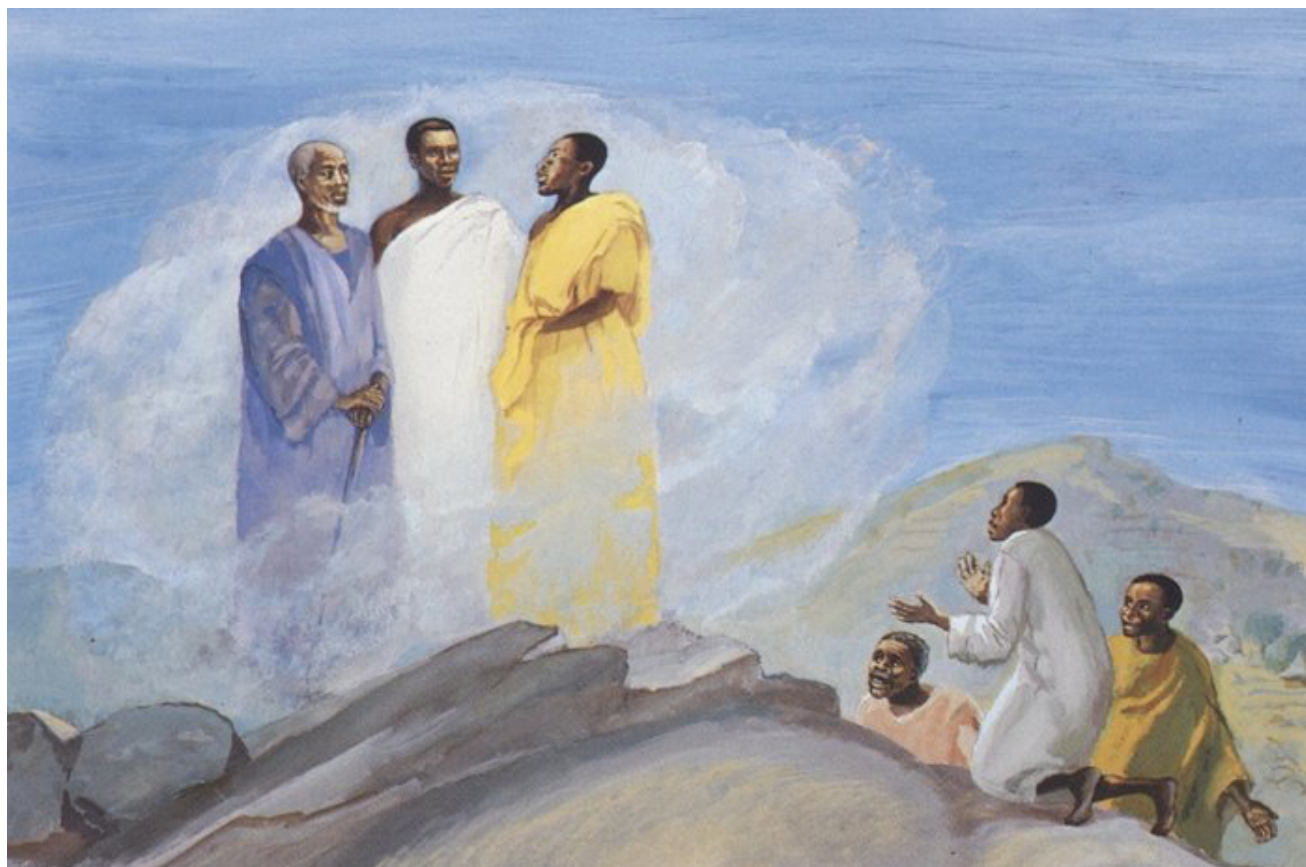


# Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

## Holy Eucharist

February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Last 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 # 166  
**We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding**<sup>1</sup>

We have come at Christ's own bidding  
to this high and holy place,  
where we wait with hope and longing  
for some token of God's grace.  
Here we pray for new assurance  
that our faith is not in vain,  
searching like those first disciples  
for a sign both clear and plain.

Light breaks in upon our darkness;  
splendour bathes the flesh-joined Word;  
Moses and Elijah marvel  
as the heavenly voice is heard.  
Eyes and hearts behold with wonder  
how the law and prophets meet:  
Christ, with garments drenched in brightness,  
stands transfigured and complete.

Strengthened by this glimpse of glory,  
fearful lest our faith decline,  
we like Peter find it tempting  
to remain and build a shrine.  
But true worship gives us courage  
to proclaim what we profess,  
that our daily lives may prove us  
people of the God we bless.

## 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 <sup>2</sup>

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.**

## The Collect <sup>3</sup>

Let us pray.

God of glory,  
by the grace of your Spirit, reveal your Son to us now  
in the message of the prophets and in the witness of the apostles,  
so that we may heed his voice and receive him in faith.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
your Son, who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

# Unfolding the Scriptures

1<sup>st</sup> Reading

A reading from the second book of Kings.

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

Psalm 50.1—6<sup>4</sup>

*Deus deorum*

The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken  
and has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.  
**Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,  
God reveals the divine glory.**

Our God will come and will not keep silence;  
before whom there is a consuming flame,  
and round about whom a raging storm.  
**God calls the heavens and the earth from above  
to witness the judgement of this people.**

“Gather before me my loyal followers,  
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.”  
**Let the heavens declare the rightness of the divine cause;  
for God, God alone, is judge.**

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

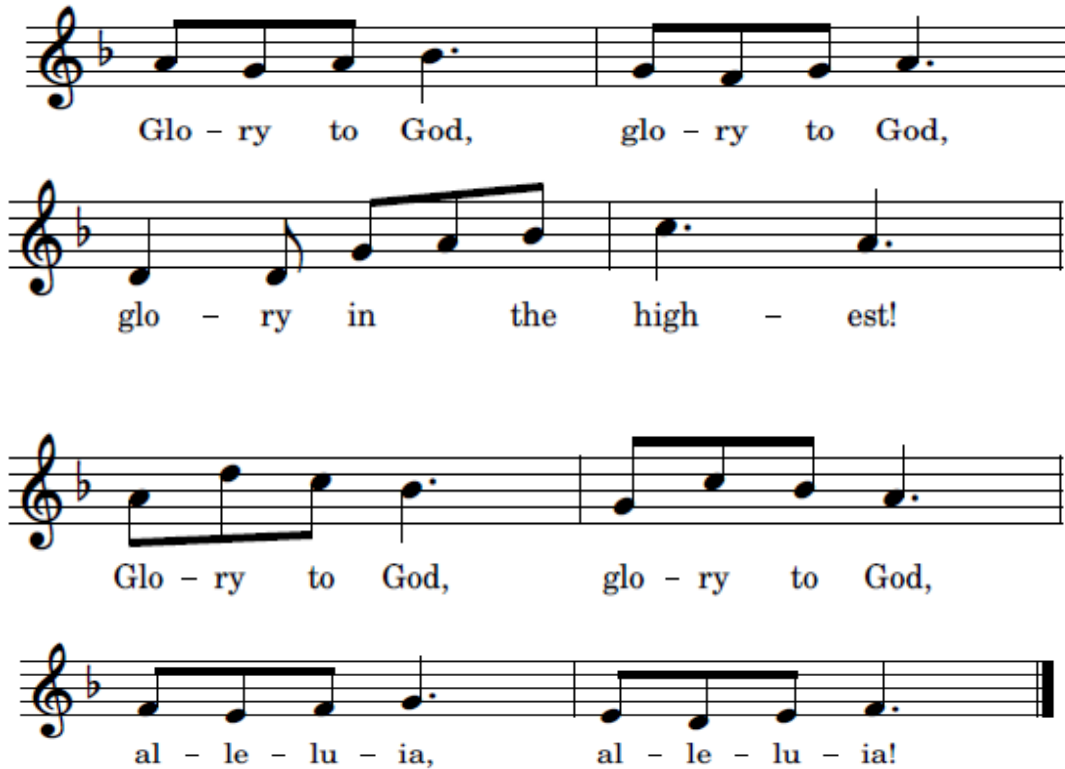
But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. I do not even judge myself. I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgement before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive commendation from God.

I have applied all this to Apollos and myself for your benefit, brothers and sisters, so that you may learn through us the meaning of the saying, 'Nothing beyond what is written', so that none of you will be puffed up in favour of one against another.

*1 Corinthians 4.3—6*

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**



The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Saint Mark.

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

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, ‘Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.’ He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!’ Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.



As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

*Mark 9.2—9*

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

The Prayers of the People

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

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 Hymn # 460

Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining<sup>6</sup>

Lord, the light of your love is shining,  
in the midst of the darkness shining;  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;  
set us free by the truth you now bring us,  
shine on me, shine on me.

*Refrain:*

Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory;  
blaze, Spirit, blaze: set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow: flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,  
from the shadows into your radiance;  
by the blood I may enter your brightness;  
search me, try me, consume all my darkness,  
shine on me, shine on me.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness  
so our faces display your likeness;  
ever-changing from glory to glory,  
mirrored here may our lives tell your story,  
shine on me, shine on me.

*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](mailto:donations.nativity@gmail.com)*

## Prayer over the Gifts <sup>7</sup>

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.**

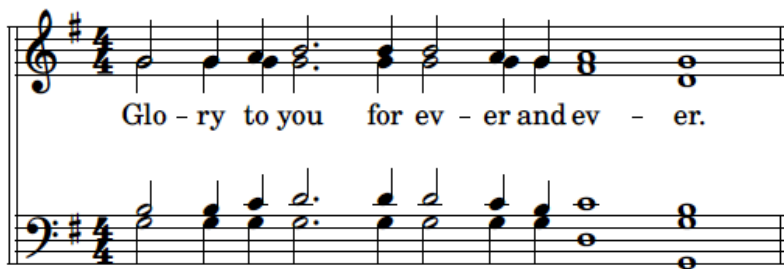
## The Great Thanksgiving <sup>8</sup>

♪ May God be with you.  
♪ **And also with you.**

♪ Lift up your hearts.  
♪ **We lift them up to God.**

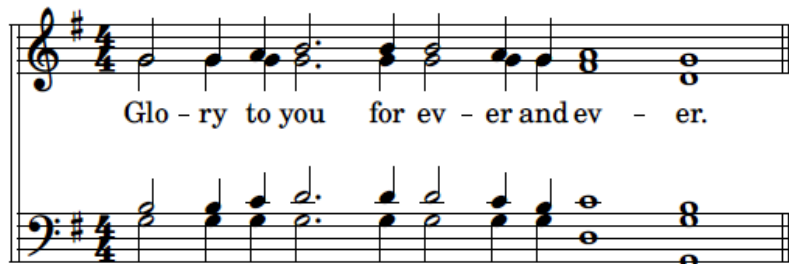
♪ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
♪ **It is right to give our thanks and praise..**

♪ It is right to give you thanks and praise,  
O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe,  
you are worthy of glory and praise.



♪ At your command all things came to be:  
the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns,  
the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home;  
by your will they were created and have their being.  
♪ **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

♪ From the primal elements you brought forth the human race,  
and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill;  
you made us the stewards of creation.



♪ But we turn against you, and betray your trust;  
and we turn against one another.  
Again and again you call us to return.  
Through the prophets and sages you reveal your righteous law.  
In the fullness of time you sent your Son,  
born of a woman, to be our Saviour.  
He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities.  
By his death he opened to us the way of freedom and peace.

♪ **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

♪ Therefore we praise you,  
joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs,  
and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope,  
to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:





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



God of power and might,



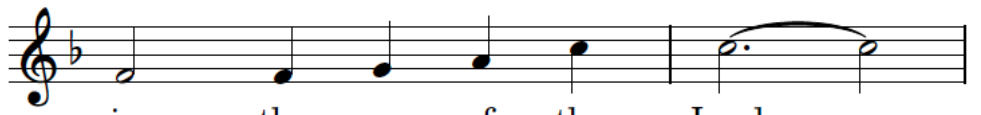
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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.

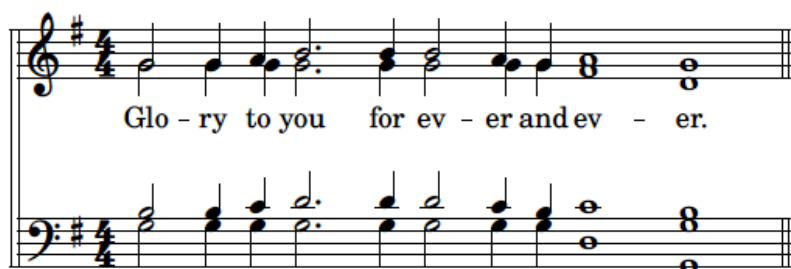


Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**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.**

♪ Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ,  
who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death,  
took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread,  
gave it to his friends, and said,  
“Take this, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup of wine;  
he gave you thanks, and said,  
“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.  
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”



♪ Gracious God, we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ,  
we proclaim his resurrection and ascension,  
and we look with expectation for his coming as Lord of all the nations.  
We who have been redeemed by him,  
and made a new people by water and the Spirit,  
now bring you these gifts.  
Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your Church,  
that we who eat and drink at this holy table  
may share the divine life of Christ our Lord.

♪ **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

♪ Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth  
and make it your new creation.  
Gather your Church together  
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom,  
where peace and justice are revealed,

that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation,  
may share the banquet you have promised;  
through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,  
all honour and glory are yours, creator of all.



The image shows a musical score for two systems. The first system has a treble clef and a bass clef, both in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics 'Glo - ry to you for ev - er and ev - er.' are written below the notes. The second system also has a treble clef and a bass clef, with the lyrics 'A - - - men.' below. The notes in the second system are connected by a long horizontal oval, indicating a sustained or legato passage.

## 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.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.

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.



**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 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 <sup>9</sup>

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 <sup>10</sup>:*

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.

**Transfigured Christ, None Comprehends <sup>11</sup>**

**Transfigured Christ, none comprehends  
your majesty, whose splendour stuns  
all waking souls; whose light transcends  
the brightness of a thousand suns!**

**You stand with Moses on the hill,  
you speak of your new exodus.  
The way through death you will fulfil  
by dying helpless on the cross.**

**You stand here with Elijah too,  
by whom the still small voice was heard;  
and you, yourself, will prove God true,  
made mute in death, incarnate Word.**

**If we could bear your brightness here  
and stay for ever in your light,  
then we would conquer grief and fear,  
and scorn the terrors of the night.**

**But, from the heights, you bring us down,  
to share earth's agonies with you,  
where piercing thorns are made your crown  
and death, accepted, proves love true.**

**Majestic Christ, God's well-loved son,  
if we must share your grief and loss,  
transfigure us, when all is done,  
with glory shining from your cross.**

## Prayer after Communion<sup>12</sup>

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.**

## Doxology<sup>13</sup>

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.**

## Announcements

## Blessing

**Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise** <sup>14</sup>

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
then wither and perish, but nought changeth thee.**

**Great Source of all glory and wisdom and light,  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all laud we would render: O help us to see  
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.**

Dismissal

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

Postlude

# Announcements!

## PANCAKE LUNCH – TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13<sup>TH</sup>!

Bring a friend along for pancakes, sausage, and all the fixings this Tuesday from 12 – 1, for only \$8!

Why pancakes? Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten fast, and so it became a day to use up all of the fats and other foods that would be avoided throughout Lent. (Hence another name—Fat Tuesday, or Mardi Gras.)



## ASH WEDNESDAY – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>

AT 10 AM AND 7:<sup>30</sup> PM



The 40 days of Lent – the time of preparing with joy to celebrate the resurrection—begin with a solemn eucharist with prayers of penitence and the imposition of ashes. Make a good beginning to Lent at a service in the morning or the evening!

## **VESTRY**

*Our annual vestry meeting will be held in-person on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, following the 10 o'clock service. At that time, we'll receive the accounts of the past year, and electing and appointing wardens and members of Parish Council.*

*All are welcome to attend the meeting. Members of the congregation who are of the full age of 16 years, and who since at least mid-August have been identifiably involved in the congregation through worship, fellowship, and financial support are able to speak and vote at the annual Vestry meeting.*

## **Your Daily Prayers are Requested:**

### ***For the Church:***

our Bishop: Susan;

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

cycle: St. Thomas, St Catharines;

wider: Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;

Linda, our primate;

the worldwide Anglican Communion, and in its cycle:  
the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan;

### ***For those in our parish cycle of prayer:***

Doreen; Saj; Peter & Michelle;

### ***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

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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

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<sup>1</sup> Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (1944—), © Hope Publishing 1988. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven (1770—1827) “Hymn to Joy”. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

<sup>2</sup> *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*.

<sup>3</sup> *Alternative Collects for Years A, B, & C of the Revised Common Lectionary*. General Synod from the Anglican Church of Canada.

<sup>4</sup> *A Liturgical Psalter* (2016). General Synod from the Anglican Church of Canada.

<sup>5</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>6</sup> Text & Music: Graham Kendrick (1950—a). © 1987 Make Way Music, Ltd. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

<sup>7</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>8</sup> Eucharistic Prayer 4, *Book of Alternative Services*.

<sup>9</sup> *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

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

<sup>11</sup> Text: Alan Gaunt (1935—a). © 1991 Stainer & Bell. Music: to *Rockingham* from *Psalmody in Miniature*, Second Supplement (1780?). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

<sup>12</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>13</sup> *Book of Alternative Services*.

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