



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

February 18th, 2024

The First Sunday in Lent



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.

Young people will be invited to come forward and share with the priest what's made them happy this week and what they'd like help with, and the priest will pray with them. Those who choose to will make their way to the youth Faith/Nurture program.

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus ¹



Tell me the stor-ries of Je - sus I love to hear;



things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:



scenes by the way - side, tales of the sea,



sto - ries of Je - sus, tell them to me.

God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,
have mercy on us.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide,
have mercy on us.

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three persons and one God,
have mercy on us.

Lord, remember not our offences, nor the offences of our forebears; spare us, good Lord, spare your people whom you have redeemed with your precious blood.
Spare us, good Lord.

From all evil and mischief, from sin, and from the crafts and assaults of the devil,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all spiritual blindness, from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all deadly sin, and from the deceits of the flesh, and the devil,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of your word and commandment,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From earthquake and tempest; from drought, fire, and flood; from civil strife and violence; from war and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared,
Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of your holy incarnation, by your baptism, fasting, and temptation; and by your proclamation of the kingdom,
Good Lord, deliver us.

By your agony and bitter grief, by your cross and passion, by your precious death and burial, by your glorious resurrection and ascension, and by the coming of the Holy Spirit,

Good Lord, deliver us.

In our times of trouble, in our times of prosperity, in the hour of death, and on the day of judgement,

Good Lord, deliver us.

Receive now our prayers, Lord God. May it please you to rule and govern your holy Church universal and lead it in your way.

Hear us, good Lord.

Strengthen your servant Charles our king in true worship and holiness of life, be his defender and keeper, that he may always seek your honour and glory, and endue the leaders of this nation with wisdom and understanding.

Hear us, good Lord.

Bless and defend all who strive for our safety and protection, and shield them in all dangers and adversities.

Hear us, good Lord.

Grant wisdom and insight to those who govern us, and to judges and magistrates the grace to execute justice with mercy.

Hear us, good Lord.

Guard, strengthen and enlighten Susan our bishop, and all bishops, priests, and deacons with true knowledge and understanding of your word, that in their preaching and living they may declare it clearly and show its truth.

Hear us, good Lord.

Encourage and prosper your servants who spread the gospel in all the world, and send out labourers into the harvest.

Hear us, good Lord.

Bless and keep your people, that all may find and follow their true vocation and ministry.

Hear us, good Lord.

Give us a heart to love and reverence you, that we may diligently live according to your commandments.

Hear us, good Lord.

To all your people give growth in grace to listen to your word, to receive it gladly, and to bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

Hear us, good Lord.

Strengthen those who stand firm in the faith, encourage the faint-hearted, raise up those who fall, and finally beat down Satan under our feet.

Hear us, good Lord.

To all nations grant unity, peace, and concord, and to all people give dignity, food, and shelter.

Hear us, good Lord.

Grant us abundant harvests, strength and skill to honour the resources of the earth, and wisdom to use them well.

Hear us, good Lord.

Enlighten with your Spirit all who teach and all who learn.

Hear us, good Lord.

Come to the help of all who are in danger, necessity, and trouble; protect all who travel by land, air, or water; and show your pity on all prisoners and captives.

Hear us, good Lord.

Defend and provide for the widowed and the orphaned, the refugee and the homeless, the unemployed, and all who are desolate and oppressed.

Hear us, good Lord.

Heal those who are sick in body or mind, and give skill and compassion to all who care for them.

Hear us, good Lord.

Grant us true repentance, forgive our sins, and strengthen us by your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your holy word.

Hear us, good Lord.

Son of God, we ask you to hear us.
Son of God, we ask you to hear us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.

O Christ, hear us.
O Christ, hear us.

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Let us pray.

God of the wilderness,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these forty days to grow in wisdom and prayer,
so that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future

generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.’ God said to Noah, ‘This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.’

Genesis 9. 8—17

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25.1—10 ³

Ad te, Domine, levavi

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you;
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame;
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
Gracious and upright are you, O Lord;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

You guide the humble in doing right and teach your way to the lowly.

**O Lord, all your paths are love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

2nd Reading

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

1 Peter 3.18—22

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful,
in the Lord I will re - jice!
Look to God, do not be a - fraid;
lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near;
lift up our voic - es, the Lord is near. In the

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.** ♪

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good

news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

Mark 1.9—15

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

Affirmation of Faith ⁴

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine,
Jesus did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.

**Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.**

**Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Peace

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

Feasting at the Table

Offertory Hymn # 175⁵

Forty Days and Forty Nights

**Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled:**

**burning heat throughout the day, bitter cold when light has fled,
prowling beasts around your way, stones your pillow, earth your bed.**

**Shall not we your trials share, learn your discipline of will,
and with you by fast and prayer wrestle with the powers of hell?**

**So if Satan, pressing hard, soul and body would destroy:
Christ who conquered, be our guard; give to us the victor's joy.**

**Saviour, may we hear your voice – keep us constant at your side;
and with you we shall rejoice at the eternal Eastertide.**

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 Gifts⁶

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered
that all people may know your goodness.

Feed us not only with this holy food
but with hunger for justice and peace.

We pray this in your name.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving⁷

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..

Worship and praise belong to you, maker of light and darkness.

Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos,
brings a harvest out of sorrow and leads the exiles home.

In Christ your Son

enemies are reconciled, debts forgiven, and strangers made welcome.

Your Spirit frees us to live as sons and daughters in our God's house.

We who by Christ's power follow the way of the Cross,

sharing the joy of his obedience,

now offer you our praise,

with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven

singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of pow - er and might,
 hea - ven 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.

**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.**

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, Holy One,
 for Christ in whom the world is reconciled.
 When Jesus was lifted on the Cross,
 death was swallowed up in victory, that life and light might reign.
 Before Jesus was given up to suffering and death,
 recalling the night of Israel's release,
 the night in which the sons of Egypt died,
 your Chosen One, himself the First-Born, freely offered his life.

At supper with his disciples Jesus took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

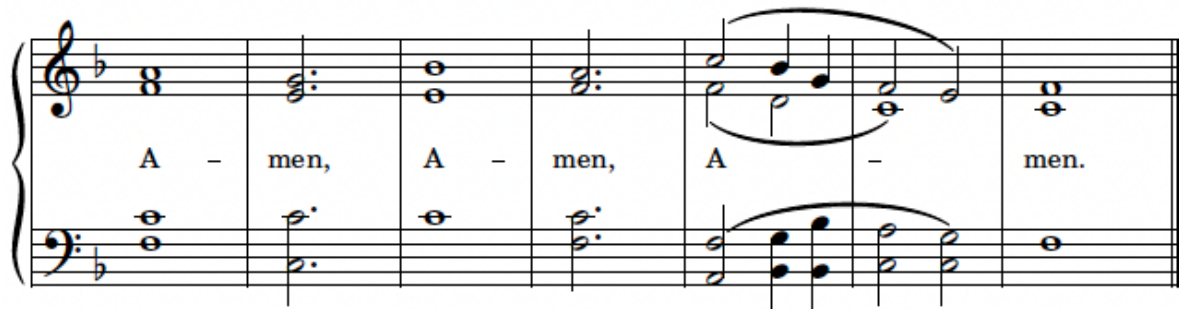
We now obey your Son's command,
recalling his passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of your reign.

Made one with Jesus, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, gracious God,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by your life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your reign.

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our sisters and brothers, living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end.



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.
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.

We break this bread,
Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.
If we have died with Christ, we shall live with Christ.
If we hold firm, we shall reign with Christ.

Bread for the journey, a feast for hungry hearts. Come!
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 ⁹:

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.

Before I Take the Body of My Lord

**Before I take the body of My Lord,
before I share his life in bread and wine,
I recognise the sorry things within—these I lay down.**

**The words of hope I often failed to give,
the prayers of kindness buried by my pride,
the signs of care I argued out of sight, these I lay down.**

**The narrowness of vision and of mind,
the need for other folk to serve my will,
and every word and silence meant to hurt, these I lay down.**

**Of those around in whom I meet my Lord,
I ask their pardon and I grant them mine
that every contradiction to Christ's peace might be laid down.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, companion at this feast,
I empty now my heart and stretch my hands,
and ask to meet you here in bread and wine—which you lay down.**

Prayer after Communion ¹¹

Generous God,
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
now make us one loaf to feed the world;
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.
Amen.

Doxology ¹²

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

Solemn Prayer over the People

Let us bow down before the Lord.
Grant, Almighty God,
that we your people may recognize our weakness
and put our whole trust in your strength,
so that we may rejoice for ever
in the protection of your loving providence;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Glory of these Forty Days ¹³

**The glory of these forty days we celebrate with songs of praise;
for Christ, by whom all things were made,
himself has fasted and has prayed.**

**Alone and fasting Moses saw the loving God who gave the law;
and to Elijah, fasting, came the steeds and chariots of flame.**

**So Daniel trained his mystic sight, delivered from the lions' might;
and John, the bridegroom's friend,
became the herald of Messiah's name.**

**Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full oft in fast and prayer with thee;
our spirits strengthen with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.**

**O Father, Son, and Spirit blest, to thee be every prayer addressed,
who art in threefold name adored, from age to age, the only Lord.**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share your bread.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Announcements!

VESTRY

Our annual vestry meeting will be held in-person on Sunday, February 25th, 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. Barnabas, 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:

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

Telephone (905) 549-4335

Email admin@worshipwithnativity.org

The Right Reverend Susan Bell

Bishop of Niagara

The Reverend Canon Matthew Griffin

Rector

The Reverend Canon David Linn

Honorary Assistant

The Reverend Deacon Larry Collinson

Parish Deacon

Mr. Peter Harding

Director of Music

Mrs. Laura Brintnell

Parish Administrator

Mrs. Jan Collinson

Mr. David Eccles

Wardens

Sources

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¹ Text: William H. Parker (1845—1929). Music: Frederick A. Challinor (1866—1952).

² *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

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

⁴ Affirmation E9 (cf. Philippians 2.6—11), *Common Worship*. Church of England.

⁵ Text: George Hunt Smyttan (1822—79), rev. *Hymns for Today's Church*, © 1982 Hope Publishing, Inc. Music: melody attrib. Martin Herbst (1654—81); harm. William Henry Monk (1823—89). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁶ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁷ Eucharistic Prayer 4, *Book of Alternative Services*.

⁸ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt. *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁹ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

¹⁰ Text and music: John L. Bell (1949—). © 1989 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹¹ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹² *Book of Alternative Services*.

¹³ Text: Latin (6th cent.); tr. Maurice E. Bell (1862—1947), alt. © Oxford UP. Music: *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543; adapt & harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685—1750). Used under OneLicense A-604280.