



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5th, 2024



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.

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father and our Mother, all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Paschal Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

May Christ's grace and peace be with you.
May Christ fill our hearts with joy.

The Collect

Let us pray.

God of abiding love, you dare to call us friends.
Take our fragmented hearts,
command them to love, and make whole our joy,
which is our life, reborn in Jesus Christ,
who laid down his life for us,
and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.
Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ‘Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?’ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Acts 10. 44 — 48

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvellous things,
whose mighty hand and holy arm have won the victory.

**O Lord, you have made known the victory;
you have openly shown your righteousness
in the sight of the nations.**

You remember your mercy and faithfulness
to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen your victory, O God.

**Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice and sing.**

Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before our sovereign, the Lord.**

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.

**Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
who is coming to judge the earth.**

In righteousness shall God judge the world
and the peoples with equity.

A reading from the first letter of John.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

1 John 5. 1 – 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 John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said ‘As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

‘This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.’

John 15. 9 – 17

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Apostles' Creed

Let us confess the faith of our baptism,
as we say,

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

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.

**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. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

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

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

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Offertory Hymn **# 309** *Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet* ³

**Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet,
praise the Lord with the harp and lute,
praise the Lord with the gentle sounding flute.
Praise the Lord in the field and forest,
praise the Lord in the city square,
praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.
Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine,
praise the Lord in the dark of night,
praise the Lord in the rain or snow or in the morning light.
Praise the Lord in the deepest valley,
praise the Lord on the highest hill,
praise the Lord, never let your voice be still.**

**Praise the Lord with the crashing cymbal,
praise the Lord with the pipe and string,
praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.
Praise the Lord on a weekday morning,
praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,
praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.
Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow,
praise the Lord in the time of joy,
praise the Lord in the every moment, nothing let your praise destroy.
Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet,
praise the Lord in your work or play,
praise the Lord every where in every way!**

Prayer over the Gifts ⁴

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving ⁵

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 indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you,
almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter
and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join 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. Blest 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 pow'r and might.
 Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

O God most mighty,
 O God most merciful,
 O God our rock and our salvation,
 hear us as we praise your holy Name,
 call us to your table,
 grant us your life.

When the world was a formless void,
you formed order and beauty.

When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child.

When the Israelites were enslaved,
you led them to freedom.

Ruth faced starvation,
David fought Goliath,
and the psalmists cried out for healing,
and full of compassion,
you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.

He was born among those living in poverty,
he lived under oppression,
he wept over the city.

With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

On the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.

Amen!

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

Amen!

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

Amen!

O God, you are Breath:
send your Spirit on this meal.

O God, you are Bread:
feed us with yourself.

O God, you are Wine:
warm our hearts and make us one.

O God, you are Fire:
transform us with hope.

O God most majestic,
O God most motherly,
O God our strength and our song,
you show us a vision of a tree of life
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.

Grant us such life,
the life of the Father to the Son,
the life of the Spirit of our risen Saviour,
life in you,
now and forever.



A musical score for piano accompaniment of the word 'Amen'. The score is written on a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 8/8. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is 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 third measure has a fermata over the word 'Amen'.

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 ⁶

Lord, we died with you on the cross.
Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.
**Now we share in your resurrection.
Live in us, that we may live in you.**

Communion ⁷

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.
Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

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 ⁸:

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.

**You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in his shadow for life,
say to the Lord, “My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!”**

Refrain

**And he will raise you up on eagles’ wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

**Snares of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear:
under his wings your refuge, his faithfulness your shield.**

**You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come.**

**For to his angels he’s given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

Prayer after Communion ¹⁰

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.
Amen.

Doxology ¹¹

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

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to God,
the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in God's service,
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

**Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! His the sceptre, his the throne;
alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.**

**Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus, out of every nation, hath redeemed us by his blood.**

Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;

alleluia! he is near us, faith believes, nor questions how.

**Though the cloud from sight received him, when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise, "I am with you evermore"?**

Alleluia! Bread of Heaven, thou on earth our food, our stay:

alleluia! here the sinful flee to thee from day to day;

**Intercessor, Friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.**

Alleluia! King eternal, thee the Lord of lords we own:

Alleluia! born of Mary, earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne.

**Thou within the veil hast entered, robed in flesh, our great high priest:
thou on earth both priest and victim in the eucharistic feast.**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! His the sceptre, his the throne;

alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.

**Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus, out of every nation, hath redeemed us by his blood.**

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace; rejoice and be glad!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Your Daily Prayers are Requested:

For the Church:

For Susan our bishop & all the people of the Diocese of Niagara;
For the parish of St. Paul, Glanford;
For Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;
For Linda, our primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion, especially remembering the Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Deb & Dan; for Gayle; for Cash;

For the needs of the world:

For peace:

For peace especially in 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:

For the repose of the soul of Kyra Roberts;

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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Director of Music
Parish Administrator

Mrs. Jan Collinson
Mr. David Eccles
Ms. Gayle MacDonald
Mr. Derek Smith

Wardens

Sources

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¹ Text: Herbert van Dyke (1852—1933), alt. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven (1770—1827). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

² *A Liturgical Psalter* (2016). General Synod from the Anglican Church of Canada.

³ Text and music: Natalie Sleeth (1930—92). © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁴ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁵ *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

⁶ *Book of Alternative Services*.

⁷ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁸ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

⁹ Text and music: Psalm 91; para. Michael Joncas (1951—), alt. © 1979, 1991 New Dawn Music. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹⁰ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹¹ *An Order for the Holy Eucharist* 2004. The Church in Wales.

¹² Text: William Chatterton Dix (1837—98). Music: Rowland Huw Prichard (1811—87). Used under OneLicense A-604280.