



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 14th, 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.

Processional Hymn

379 Rejoice, the Lord Is King¹

**Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice: rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**Jesus the Saviour reigns, the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice: rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice: rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**He sits at God's right hand till all his foes submit,
and bow to his command, and fall beneath his feet.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice: rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**Rejoice in glorious hope; Jesus, the Judge, shall come
and take his servants up to their eternal home.
We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!**

Greeting

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.

The Collect ²

Let us pray.

God of the prophets,
whose word cuts through the webs of power
and holds the tyrant to account:
be with all who raise their voice against oppression and misrule,
who are imprisoned and abused for freedom's sake;
help us to stand and speak with them and witness to your kingdom now;
through Jesus Christ, the name above all others.
Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the Lord of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim. They carried the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart with the ark of God; and Ahio went in front of the ark. David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the LORD with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing; and when those who bore the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. David danced before the LORD with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

As the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart.

They brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt-offerings and offerings of well-being before the LORD. When David had finished offering the burnt-offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts, and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

2 Samuel 6. 1 – 5; 12^b – 19

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world and all who dwell therein.

**For it is God who founded it upon the seas
and made it firm upon the rivers of the deep.**

“Who can ascend the hill of the Lord
and who can stand in the holy place of God?”

**“Those who have clean hands and a pure heart,
who have not pledged themselves to falsehood,
nor sworn by what is a fraud.**

They shall receive a blessing from the Lord
and a just reward from the God of their salvation.”

**Such is the generation of those who seek you,
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.**

Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors;
and the One who reigns in glory shall come in.

“Who is this glorious One?”

“The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.”

Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors;
and the One who reigns in glory shall come in.

“Who is this glorious One?”

“The Lord of hosts, the Lord who reigns in glory.”

A reading from the second letter to the followers of Jesus in Ephesus.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 1. 3 – 14

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The acclamation is sung

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah; hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah; hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, 'John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him.' But others said, 'It is Elijah.' And others said, 'It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.' But when Herod heard of it, he said, 'John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.'

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, 'It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.' And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, 'Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.' And he solemnly swore to her, 'Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.' She went out and said to her mother, 'What should I ask for?' She replied, 'The head of John the baptizer.' Immediately she rushed back to the king and

requested, 'I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.' The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

Mark 6. 14 – 29

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Affirmation of Faith ⁴

Let us affirm the faith we share.

**We trust in God, who has created and is creating;
who came to us in Jesus, the word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new;
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.**

**We believe we are called to be God's people:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus' death and resurrection by word and deed.**

**We live in hope because in life, in death, in life beyond death,
we are not alone: God is with us.**

Thanks be to God. Amen.

✠ Merciful God,
✠ **receive our prayer.**

Confession & Absolution ⁵

Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy,
welcoming sinners and inviting us to this table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

God, our provider,
help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

We question your ways

when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live.

We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you.

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn?

Share with us the words of eternal life

and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
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.

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Monetary contributions to the Church of the Nativity and its ministries as we live out God's mission can be mailed to the parish, dropped off in the mailbox, or made via e-transfer to donations.nativity@gmail.com

Offertory Hymn

371 **To God be the Glory**⁶

**To God be the glory, who great things has done!
God so loved the world, freely sending the Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

Refrain:

**Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear God's voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give God the glory, who great things has done!**

**O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God:
that when the offender, repenting believes,
through Jesus' atonement, God's pardon receives. *Refrain...***

**Great things God has taught us, great things God has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our gladness when Jesus we see! *Refrain...***

Prayer over the Gifts ⁷

Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
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.

Orchestrating God, we rejoice to thank you,
for in Christ you have made known to us the mystery of your will,
according to your good pleasure.

You have shown us your plan for the fullness of time,
to gather up all things in your Son,
things in heaven and things on earth.

In Christ you have bestowed upon us an inheritance that we,
who set our hope on him, might live for the praise of your glory.

You have marked those who believe
with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit
as the pledge of your redemption.

And so we anticipate that fullness and that glory
by joining the angels in the everlasting song of praise.

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est,
 ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bles-sed 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.
 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.**

Blessed be you, God our Father,
for you chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world
to be holy and blameless before you in love.
You destined us for adoption as your children.
Send down your Spirit on your people that,
through the power of your Son's dying and rising,
we might know forgiveness of our sins in the riches of your grace.
As you bring us redemption through the blood of our Saviour,
sanctify this bread and cup,
that in them we may meet you
in 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.

Covenanting God, in David you show us
the ecstatic joy of being your companion,
and the coruscating delight of being your child.
As David knew the scorn of his wife Michal,
bring solace to any who live with the disdain or contempt
of family, neighbours, or colleagues.
As your prophet John the Forerunner
faced the price of his courage and Herod's folly,
give perseverance and hope to all who face danger
because of their faith or their witness.

Raise up prophets among your people
who can see and name what does not belong with you
and can shine the light of your truth
in the nighttime of fear and oppression,
until the day when all sorrow is turned to dancing
and all creation emanates the praise of your glory,
three-in-one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
forever and ever.

A musical score for the text "Amen, amen, amen." The score is written for a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 8/8. The music is divided into six measures. The lyrics "A - men," "A - men," and "A - men." are placed below the notes. The first two measures are simple chords. The third measure has a melodic line in the treble clef. The fourth measure has a melodic line in the bass clef. The fifth measure has a melodic line in the treble clef. The sixth measure has a melodic line in the bass clef.

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 Bread⁹

Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat,
whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread.

**So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth
into your reign of justice and peace.**

Communion¹⁰

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.

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 ¹¹:

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.

**God of the sparrow
God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise**

**God of the earthquake
God of the storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe
How does the creature cry Save**

**God of the rainbow
God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks**

**God of the hungry
God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life**

**God of the neighbour
God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace**

**God of the ages
God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home**

All your works praise you, O Lord.
And your faithful servants bless you.

Gracious God
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
May we, who share his body, live his risen life;
we, who drink his cup, bring life to others;
we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so that we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Parish Announcements

Blessing

**May the grace of Christ our Saviour,
and the Father's boundless love,
with the Holy Spirit's favour,
rest upon us from above.**

**Thus may we abide in union
with each other and the Lord,
and possess in sweet communion
joys which earth cannot afford.**

**To the God whose wisdom made us,
to the Son who set us free,
to the sanctifying Spirit,
glory, endless glory be!**

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God!

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. Matthew on the Plain, Burlington;
For Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;
For Linda, our primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion, remembering the Church of Ireland;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Paul; for John & Blanche; for Wayne & Cathy;

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:

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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Rector
Honorary Assistant
Parish Deacon
Director of Music
Parish Administrator

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

Wardens

Sources

Our cover image is a Byzantine icon of St. John the Forerunner.

¹ Text: Charles Wesley (1707—88). Music: John Darwall (1731—89). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

² *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*. International Consultation on Common Texts.

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

⁴ *Celebrate God's Presence*. United Church of Canada (2000)

⁵ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁶ Text: Fanny Crosby (1820—1915), alt; rev. *The Book of Praise*, 1997. Music: William Howard Doane (1832—1915). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁷ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁸ *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

⁹ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

¹⁰ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹¹ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

¹² Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda (1919—2008). ©. Music: Carl F. Schalk (1929—2021). © 1983 *GIA Publications, Inc.* Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹³ *Book of Alternative Services*.

¹⁴ Text: st. 1—2, John Newton (1725—1807); st. 3, *New English Hymnal*. Music: William Boyce (1710—79), alt. Used under OneLicense A-604280.