

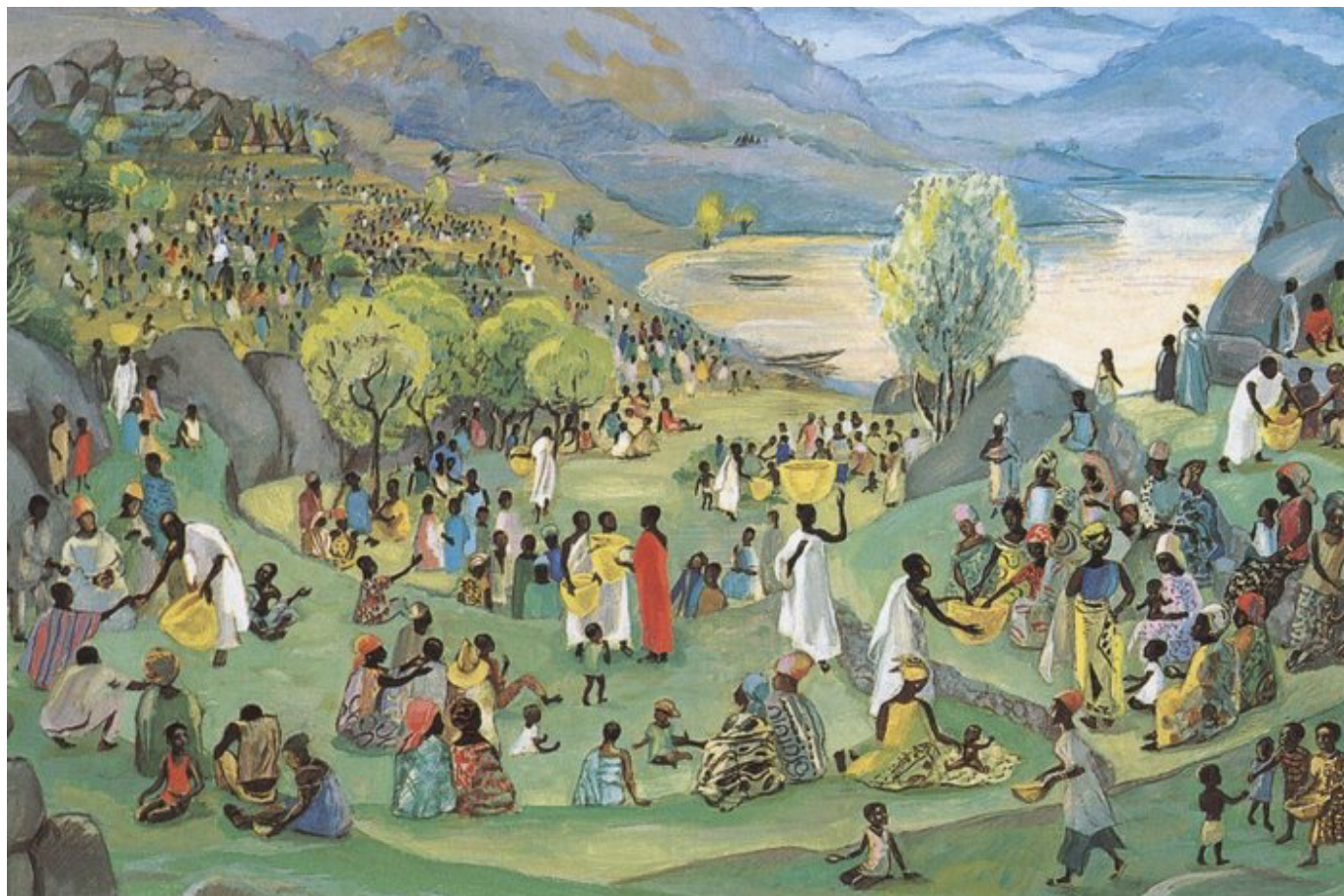


Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

July 28th, 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.

*Opening Hymn # 397 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*¹

**Praise the one who breaks the darkness with a liberating light.
Praise the one who frees the prisoners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel, healing every dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.
Praise the one who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word.
Praise the one who drove out demons with a piercing two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand.
From this well comes living water, quenching thirst in every land.**

**Praise the one true love incarnate: Christ who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory, praise the One who makes us one.**

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.

In your compassionate love, O God,
you nourish us with words of life and bread of blessing.
Grant that Jesus may calm our fears,
and move our hearts to praise your goodness
by sharing our bread with others;
through the same Jesus the Christ,
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 second book of Samuel.

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, 'This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite.' So David sent messengers to fetch her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, 'I am pregnant.'

So David sent word to Joab, 'Send me Uriah the Hittite.' And Joab sent Uriah to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. Then David said to Uriah, 'Go down to your house, and wash your feet.' Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. When they told David, 'Uriah did not go down to his house', David said to Uriah, 'You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?' Uriah said to David, 'The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing.' Then David said to Uriah, 'Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back.' So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. In the letter he wrote, ‘Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die.’

2 Samuel 11. 1 – 15

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 14

*Dixit insipiens*³

Fools say in their hearts, “There is no God.”
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;
there is none who does any good.

**The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all,
to see if there is any who is wise,
if there is anyone who seeks after God.**

Every one has proved faithless; all alike have turned bad;
there is none who does good; no, not one.

**Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers
who eat up my people like bread
and do not call upon the Lord?**

See how they tremble with fear,
because God is in the company of the righteous.

**Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted,
but the Lord is their refuge.**

Oh, that Israel’s deliverance would come out of Zion!
**When the Lord restores the fortunes of this people,
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.**

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

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3. 14 – 21

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 John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.

John 6. 1 – 21

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.**

The Prayers of the People

V Merciful God,
R **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

555 O God of Bethel, by Whose Hand⁶

**O God of Bethel, by whose hand thy people still are fed,
who through this earthly pilgrimage thy multitudes hast led:**

**our vows, our prayers, we now present before thy throne of grace.
God of our forebears, be the God of their succeeding race.**

**Through each perplexing path of life our wandering footsteps guide;
give us each day our daily bread and raiment fit provide.**

**O spread thy covering wings around till all our wanderings cease
and in the city of our God our souls arrive in peace.**

Prayer over the Gifts⁷

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.

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.

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer,
your living Word, through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit
Jesus took flesh of the Virgin Mary
and shared our human nature,
living and dying as one of us,
to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will,
Jesus stretched out his hands in suffering,
to bring release to those who place their hope in you,
and so winning for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows,
giving up his life on the cross,
to shatter the chains of evil and death
and banish the darkness of sin and despair.

By his resurrection, God brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

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.**

Holy and gracious God,

accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death,
took bread and gave you thanks, saying,

“Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you.”

In the same way he took the cup, saying,

“This is my blood which is shed for you.

When you do this, you do it in memory of me.”

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,

we offer you this bread and this cup, giving thanks

that you have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your holy Church.

Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries,

filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth,

that together we may praise you and give you glory

through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours,

Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church,

now and for ever.

A musical score for the word 'Amen'. It consists of two staves, a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom, both in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 8/8. The melody is written in the treble clef and consists of six measures. The first measure has a whole note 'A' on the G line. The second measure has a whole note 'men,' on the G line. The third measure has a whole note 'A' on the G line. The fourth measure has a whole note 'men,' on the G line. The fifth measure has a half note 'A' on the G line, followed by a half note 'men.' on the G line. The sixth measure has a whole note 'men.' on the G line. The bass line consists of six measures. The first measure has a whole note on the G line. The second measure has a whole note on the G line. The third measure has a whole note on the G line. The fourth measure has a whole note on the G line. The fifth measure has a half note on the G line, followed by a half note on the G line. The sixth measure has a whole note on the G line.

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.

**Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.**

**With grateful joy and holy fear his charity we learn;
let us with heart and mind and soul now love him in return.**

**Forgive we now each other's faults as we our faults confess;
and let us love each other well in Christian holiness.**

**Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease;
be his the glory that we seek, be ours his holy peace.**

**Let us recall that in our midst dwells God's begotten Son;
as members of his body joined, we are in him made one.**

**Love can exclude no race or creed if honoured be God's name;
our common life embraces all whose Father is the same.**

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

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

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God,
and in fond memory of my departed parents,
John and Lilian Carrington, and my brother, Raymond.

Given by Jackie Tucker.

Your Daily Prayers are Requested:

For the Church:

For Susan our bishop; for Colin our commissary;
and for & all the people of the Diocese of Niagara;
For the parish of St. Alban the Martyr, Glen Williams;
For Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;
For Linda, our primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
remembering the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Jim & Betsy; for Al & Mary; for Brian & Yvonne;

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:

Remembering John, Lillian, & Raymond Carrington;

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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The Right Reverend Susan Bell
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Bishop of Niagara
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 from the JESUS MAFA project, depicting Jesus multiplying the loaves and fish.

JESUS MAFA. Jesus multiplies the loaves and fish, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48287> [retrieved July 23, 2024].

¹ Text: Rusty Edwards (1955—), © Hope Publishing. Music: *A Repository of Sacred Music: Part Second*, Harrisburg, 1813. 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: Philip Doddridge (1702—51) and John Logan (1748—88), alt.; Music: Johann Michael Haydn (1737—1806), alt. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁷ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁸ Eucharistic Prayer 2, alt. *Book of Alternative Services*.

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: Latin (9th cent.); tr. Omer Westendorf (1916—97), alt. © 1961, 1962 *World Library Publications, Inc.* Music: Attrib. Lucius Chapin (1769—1842). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹³ *Book of Alternative Services*.

¹⁴ Text: Herbert O’Driscoll (1928—). Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810—76). Used under OneLicense A-604280.