



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 11th, 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

373 This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made ¹

**This is the day the Lord hath made, its hours to God are known;
let heaven rejoice, let earth be glad, and praise surround the throne.**

**Today Christ rose and left the dead, and Satan's empire fell;
today the saints his triumph spread, and all his wonders tell.**

**Hosanna to the anointed King, to David's holy Son!
Help us, O Lord; descend and bring salvation from thy throne.**

**Hosanna in the highest strains the church on earth can raise;
the highest heavens in which he reigns shall give him nobler praise.**

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.

Unseen God,
drawing all people to the end of our desires:
teach us to know true bread from false
and to feed on him who shares our flesh,
Jesus Christ, our communion,
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.

The king gave orders to Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom.' And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom.

So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the

forest claimed more victims that day than the sword.

Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on. And ten young men, Joab's armour-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him.

Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, 'Good tidings for my lord the king! For the LORD has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you.' The king said to the Cushite, 'Is it well with the young man Absalom?' The Cushite answered, 'May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man.'

The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, 'O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would that I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!'

2 Samuel 18. 5 – 9, 15, 31 – 33

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130

*De Profundis*³

Out of the depths have I called you, O Lord;

Lord, hear my voice;

let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss,

O Lord, who could stand?

For there is forgiveness with you; therefore you shall be feared.

I wait for you, O Lord; my soul waits for you; in your word is my hope.

My soul waits for you, O Lord,

more than sentinels for the morning,

more than sentinels for the morning.

O Israel, wait for the Lord,
for with the Lord there is mercy;
**with whom there is plenteous redemption,
and who shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

2nd Reading

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

So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labour and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 4. 25 – 5. 2

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.

Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, ‘I am the bread that came down from heaven.’ They were saying, ‘Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, “I have come down from heaven”?’ Jesus answered them, ‘Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, “And they shall all be taught by God.” Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.’

John 6. 35, 41 – 51

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

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

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 Song

*Christ, Be Our Light*⁶

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.**

Refrain:

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church, gathered today.**

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.**

Refrain...

**Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
Shared until all are fed.**

Refrain...

**Longing for shelter, many are homeless,
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering other,
walls made of living stone.**

Refrain...

**Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.**

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.

God of the living and the dead,
it is our joy to give you thanks and praise because,
though we are your rebellious creation,
you love us and go to every length to bring us home to you.
As your servant David's son Absalom
was left hanging between heaven and earth,
your Son Jesus hung on the cross for our salvation.
As the young men struck David's son and killed him,
so Jesus, the Son of David, had a spear thrust into his side.
And as David cried, "Would that I had died instead of you!"
we recall that in Christ you did die instead of us, your wayward children.
And so with humble, thankful hearts
we join the angels and archangels
to sing the hymn of your endless glory.

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.**

True and living God,
in Christ you send us the bread that comes down from heaven,
and you promise that whoever eats of this bread will live forever.

Sanctify your people
that they may be marked with a seal for the day of redemption
and be raised up on the last day.

Send your Holy Spirit on this bread and this cup,
that they may be for us 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.

Faithful God,
you call us to imitate you in truth-telling, honesty, grace,
kindness, forgiveness, and tender love.

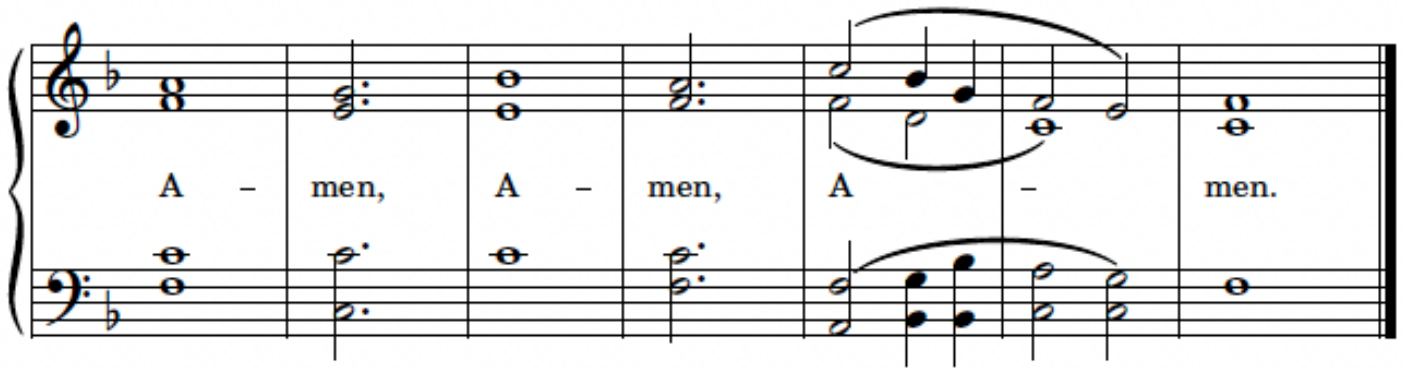
Show your people when to be angry,
and how not to let the sun go down on their anger.

Come among any who are entangled in bitterness and wrath
and wrangling and malice and slander.

Bring healing to all who are estranged from a family member
or one to whom they were once bound in love.

Build up those who are cast down by harshness or cruelty or violence.

Usher every willing heart into the banquet of your kingdom,
that all your creation may share the wonder of your mercy,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.



Amen, amen, amen.

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.

The Breaking of the Bread ⁹

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.**

Communion ¹⁰

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.

**I am the bread, the bread of life;
who comes to me will never hunger.
I am the bread, the bread of heaven;
who feeds on me will never die.
And as you eat, remember me,
my body broken on the tree:
my life was given to set you free,
and I'm alive for evermore.**

**I am the vine, the living vine;
apart from me you can do nothing.
I am the vine, the real vine:
abide in me and I in you.
And as you drink, remember me,
my blood was shed upon the tree:
my life was given to set you free,
and I'm alive for evermore.**

**So eat this bread and drink this wine,
and as you do, receive this life of mine.
All that I am, I give to you,
that you may live for evermore.**

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

**Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,
my daily labour to pursue;
thee, only thee, resolved to know
in all I think or speak or do.**

**Give me to bear thy easy yoke,
and every moment watch and pray,
and still to things eternal look,
and hasten to thy glorious day;**

**for thee delightfully employ
whate'er thy bounteous grace hath given;
and run my course with even joy,
and closely walk with thee to heaven.**

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 with love, remembrance
and thanks for a job well done,
for my parents Ronnie & Helen Wilson.
Given by Arlene Sheridan.**

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. George, Lowville;
For Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;
For Linda, our primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
remembering the Anglican Church of Korea;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Kim; for Arlene; for Ken & Sigi;

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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Director of Music

Mrs. Laura Brintnell

Parish Administrator

Mrs. Jan Collinson

Mr. David Eccles

Ms. Gayle MacDonald

Mr. Derek Smith

Wardens

Sources

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- ¹ Text: Isaac Watts (1647—1748), alt. Music: *Hymns and Sacred Poems*, Dublin, 1749. Used under OneLicense A-604280.
- ² Stephen Shakespeare. *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* (2009), alt. From *Alternative Collects for Years A, B, & C of the Revised Common Lectionary and Seasonal Prayers Over the Gifts and After Communion*. Authorized by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, 2019.
- 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 © 1993, 2000, Bernadette Farrell. Used under OneLicense A-604280.
- ⁷ *Sundays and Seasons*.
- ⁸ *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher. Eerdmans, 2016.
- 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 and music: Brian R. Hoare (1935—). © 1988 Hope Publishing. Used under OneLicense A-604280.
- ¹³ *Book of Alternative Services*.
- ¹⁴ Text: Charles Wesley (1707—1788). Music: Orlando Gibbons (1583—1625). Used under OneLicense A-604280.