



# Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

## Holy Eucharist

### The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 25<sup>th</sup>, 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*

*# 425 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee<sup>1</sup>*

**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.**

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 <sup>2</sup>

Let us pray.

Offensive God, refusing our religion of sacrifice and power:  
find us in our wandering,  
speak to us the word of life,  
liberate our violent hearts,  
and let us abide with you;  
through Jesus Christ, the holy one of God,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
God for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## **Unfolding the Scriptures**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading

A reading from the first book of Kings.

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes,  
the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in

Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion. Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, ‘O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, “There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.” Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

‘But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Have regard to your servant’s prayer and his plea, O LORD my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, “My name shall be there”, that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.

‘Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays towards this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling-place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so

that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.

*1 Kings 8. 1, 6, 10 – 11, 22 – 30, 41 – 43*

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 84

*Quam dilecta!*<sup>3</sup>

How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts!

My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;

my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

**The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my Sovereign and my God.**

Happy are they who dwell in your house!

They will always be praising you.

**Happy are the people whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way!**

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

**They will climb from height to height, and you, the God of gods, will reveal yourself in Zion.**

Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob.

**Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your anointed.**

For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

**For you, Lord God, are both sun and shield; you will give grace and glory;**

no good thing will you withhold, O Lord,  
from those who walk with integrity.

**O Lord of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

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

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

*Ephesians 6. 10 – 20*

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 image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are: 'Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah; hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.' The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics, also ending with a double bar line.

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 ‘Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.’ He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, ‘This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?’ But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, ‘Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.’ For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, ‘For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.’

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, ‘Do you also wish to go away?’ Simon Peter answered him, ‘Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of

eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.'

*John 6. 56 – 69*

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

Affirmation of Faith <sup>4</sup>

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](mailto:donations.nativity@gmail.com)*

*Offertory Hymn*

*# 532 What a Friend We Have in Jesus <sup>6</sup>*

**What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!**

**What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!**

**O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!**

**Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?**

**We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?**

**Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Are we weak and heavy-laden, cumbered with a load of care?**

**Christ the Saviour is our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Do our friends despise, forsake us? Are we tempted to despair?**

**Jesus' strength will shield our weakness,  
and we'll find new courage there.**

Prayer over the Gifts <sup>7</sup>

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.**

Holy God, whom neither earth nor heaven can contain,  
we gather around the mystery of your grace.

You called your chosen people to abide with you  
in covenant and steadfast love,

and through them you called all the peoples of the earth  
to know your name and come before you in godly fear.

When your children wondered if you would indeed dwell upon the earth,  
you embodied and renewed your covenant  
in the flesh of your Son Jesus Christ.

And so we thank and praise you,

joining with cherubim and seraphim and the company of heaven  
singing the never-ending hymn of 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.**

Faithful God, there is no one else to whom we can go;  
 you alone have the power of resurrection and the words of eternal life.  
 Your Son promised that those who eat his flesh and drink his blood  
 abide in him, and he in them.

Sanctify your people that they may come to believe and know  
 that you are the Holy One.

Send down 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.**

God our stronghold, give your people the power  
to stand firm in faith clothed in the armour of your Spirit.

Uphold any who are oppressed by rulers, authorities,  
cosmic powers, or spiritual forces.

Be the belt of truth for those who live amid lies,  
and the breastplate of righteousness for all who are exploited.

Put shoes on the feet of your children who proclaim the gospel of peace,  
and guard all who seek refuge behind the shield of faith.

Equip any who face hostility with the helmet of salvation  
and the sword of your Spirit.

As your Son's agonizing cross came before his glorious resurrection,  
follow the travails of your people with the wondrous coming of your  
kingdom,

that every tear-filled eye may bask in the glory of your Triune majesty,  
one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

A musical score for the hymn 'Amen, amen, amen.' The score is written for a piano and features a treble and bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 8/8. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with the bass clef providing harmonic support. The lyrics 'A - men, A - men, A - men.' are placed below the notes. The score consists of six measures. The first two measures are marked with a 'g' (grace note) and a colon. The third measure has a colon. The fourth measure has a colon. The fifth measure has a colon. The sixth measure has a colon. The score ends with a double bar 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 Bread <sup>9</sup>

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 <sup>10</sup>

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 <sup>11</sup>:*

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.



**Take my life, and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days,  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands, and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet, and let them be  
swift and purposeful for thee.**

**Take my lips, and let them be  
filled with messages from thee;  
take my intellect, and use  
every power as thou shalt choose.**

**Take my will, and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine;  
take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.**

**Take my love: my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.**

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

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus, you soldiers of the cross!  
Lift high his royal banner, it must not suffer loss.  
From victory on to victory his army he shall lead  
till evil is defeated, and Christ is Lord indeed.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus! The trumpet call obey;  
then join the mighty conflict in this his glorious day.  
Be strong in faith and serve him, against unnumbered foes;  
let courage rise with danger, and strength to strength oppose.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus! Stand in his power alone,  
for human might will fail you – you dare not trust your own.  
Put on the gospel armour, keep watch with constant prayer;  
when duty calls or danger, be never failing there.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus! The fight will not be long;  
this day the noise of battle, the next the victor's song.  
To everyone who conquers, a crown of life shall be;  
we, with the king of glory, shall reign eternally.**

Dismissal

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

# Save the Date...



*Slow comes the hour, its passing speed how great!*

*Waiting to seize it – vigilantly wait.*

- William Cowper (1788)



## **Back to School Supplies!**

For many families, the extra costs of students heading back to school in the fall are overwhelming!

Through September, let's gather supplies that can make a difference for students at local schools.

### **Some Suggested Items**

Pencil Crayons  
Glue Sticks  
Safety Scissors  
cloth Pencil Case  
HB Pencils  
Erasers  
Pencil Sharpeners (with receptacle)  
Kleenex  
Page Dividers for Binders  
Coloured Duo Tangs  
Lined 3-hole paper  
Calculators (preferably solar-powered)  
Rulers (with cm & mm)

## **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. John, Nassagaweya, Campbellville;  
For Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;  
For Linda, our primate;  
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,  
remembering La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico;

### ***For those in our parish cycle of prayer:***

For Dawn, Lovelle, Domenic & Junelle; for Rob & Tiffany, Reid & Hudson;  
for Bob & Nancy;

### ***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 George Archibald;

**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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[youtube.com/@nativityniagara](https://www.youtube.com/@nativityniagara)



1831 King St. East  
Hamilton, ON L8K 1V8



(905) 549-4335



admin@worshipwithnativity.org

The Right Reverend Susan Bell  
The Reverend Canon Matthew Griffin  
The Reverend Canon David Linn  
The Reverend Deacon Larry Collinson  
Mr. Peter Harding  
Mrs. Laura Brintnell

*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

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<sup>2</sup> 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.

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

<sup>4</sup> *Celebrate God’s Presence*. United Church of Canada (2000)

<sup>5</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>6</sup> Text: Joseph Medlicott Scriven (1819—86), alt. Music: Charles Crozat Converse (1832—1918). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

<sup>7</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>8</sup> *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher. Eerdmans, 2016.

<sup>9</sup> *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

<sup>10</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

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

<sup>12</sup> Text: Frances Ridgley Havergal (1836—79). Music: composer unknown. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

<sup>13</sup> *Book of Alternative Services*.

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