



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 8th, 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.

Let us pray.

Lord of the changing,
you help us to find our voice that we might find our faith:
we praise you for the Gentile woman
who answered back the Son of God;
release us from the crowds which command our silence
and free our tongues to demand from you the healing of the earth;
through Jesus Christ, the opener of the gate,
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 book of Proverbs.

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
and favour is better than silver or gold.

The rich and the poor have this in common:
the Lord is the maker of them all.

Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,
and the rod of anger will fail.

Those who are generous are blessed,
for they share their bread with the poor.

Do not rob the poor because they are poor,
or crush the afflicted at the gate;
for the Lord pleads their cause
and despoils of life those who despoil them.

Proverbs 22. 1 – 2, 8 – 9, 22 – 23

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 125

*Qui confidunt*³

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.

**The hills stand about Jerusalem;
so does the Lord stand round about this people,
from this time forth for evermore.**

The sceptre of the wicked shall not hold sway
over the land allotted to the just,
so that the just shall not put their hands to evil.

**Show your goodness, O Lord, to those who are good
and to those who are true of heart.**

As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,
the Lord will lead them away with the evildoers;
but peace be upon Israel.

2nd Reading

A reading from the letter of James.

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in

faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

James 2. 1 – 10, 14 – 17

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

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.

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue.

Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.

Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

Mark 7. 24 – 37

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

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.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.
We confess that we have honoured you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbours with our tongues.
The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.
In our desire to be first
we make distinctions among ourselves.
We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.
In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.
Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Lord. 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

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation.
By these gifts and with our lives,
 help us to serve one another and all in need,
 through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.
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.

Maker and redeemer of all, we lift our hearts to thank you,
 because you open our ears to hear your voice
 and release our tongue to sing your praise.

You created the earth as a place of encounter
 between you and your creatures.

You called your people from slavery and wilderness
 to covenant and abundant life.

You gave your children manna to share,
 and from the crumbs that fell from their table
 you made a banquet to welcome the Gentiles
 to the joy of your companionship.

You made the body of your crucified and risen Son
 the altar of your mercy and of our redemption.

And so we zealously proclaim the triumphs of your grace,
 joining with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven

in the hymn of your eternal 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.**

Life-giving God, you share your bread with those living in poverty,
and you make this banquet the place
where in the power of your Spirit
we are united as one body in your Son.

Make this meal a moment of reconciliation
between you and your people,
and let those who share in it be ambassadors of reconciliation
within your wounded world.

Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and this cup,
that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord 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 of the afflicted, you have chosen those living in poverty in the world
to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom
that you have promised to those who love you.

Make your church rich as you are rich,
in compassion and mercy, in wisdom and grace;
and make your people poor as you are poor,
in sharing the calamity of those who endure injustice
and knowing the pain of all who live with the world's anger.

Take away the mask of poverty, that all may see with joy
the riches of those the world calls poor,
and remove the mask of wealth, that all may see with love

the poverty of those the world calls rich.
Hasten the day when your gentle mercy
triumphs over the world's harsh judgement,
and all find a place at the feast of your kingdom,
ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



A musical score for piano accompaniment. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 8/8. The score is divided into six measures. The lyrics 'A - men, A - men, A - men.' are written below the treble staff. The first two measures have a whole note chord in the treble and a half note chord in the bass. The third measure has a whole note chord in the treble and a half note chord in the bass. The fourth measure has a whole note chord in the treble and a half note chord in the bass. The fifth measure has a whole note chord in the treble and a half note chord in the bass. The sixth measure has a whole note chord in the treble and a half note chord in the bass. 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 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

Jesus welcomes you to this table.

Come, here is your God.

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.

**We lay our broken world in sorrow at your feet,
haunted by hunger, war and fear, oppressed by power and hate,**

**where human life seems less than profit, might and pride,
though to unite us all in you, you lived and loved and died.**

**We bring our broken hopes for lives of dignity;
workless and over-worked you love, and call us to be free.**

**We bring our broken loves, friends parted, families torn;
then in your life and death we see that love must be reborn.**

**We bring our broken selves, confused and closed and tired;
then through your gift of healing grace new purpose is inspired.**

**Come fill us, Fire of God, our life and strength renew;
find in us love and hope and trust, and lift us up to you.**

Holy God,
you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with dignity at your table.
Send us now to welcome others
and to be at peace with one another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Glory to God,
**whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Parish Announcements

Blessing

**Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where cries of tribe and race resound,
amid the noise of selfish strife,
O Christ, your word of love is found.**

**The cup of water given for you
still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to view
the strong compassion of your face.**

**O Jesus, from the mountainside
make haste to heal these hearts of pain.
Among these restless throngs abide;
O tread the city's streets again,**

**till all the world shall learn your love
and follow where your feet have trod,
till glorious from your heaven above
shall come the city of our God.**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God!

*The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God,
and remembering our dear son, brother and husband Scott.
Placed by John, Patty, Brett, Bradley, and Tara Costen.*

Save the Date...

The Taste of Spirit Fundraiser



1 – 5 pm

Church of the Nativity

Tickets \$30.⁰⁰

Includes 3 sample tastings

Charcuterie Boards

Entertainment

Beer, Wine, & additional samples for purchase

Gift Baskets, Draws, and other prizes

How will you get home?



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;
and for & all the people of the Diocese of Niagara;
For the parish of Epiphany, Oakville;
For Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;
For Linda, our primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
remembering the Church of the Province of Myanmar;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Norm & Wendy; for Charles & Beverley; for Bruce & Leanne;

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

worshipwithnativity.org



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The Reverend Canon Matthew Griffin
The Reverend Canon David Linn
The Reverend Deacon Larry Collinson
Mr. Peter Harding
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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 a folio page from Walters manuscript W.593 depicting the Canaanite woman asking Jesus for healing for her daughter. The artist—Ilyas Basim Khuri Bazzi Rahib—was a Coptic monk in late 17th century Egypt. The text is written in Naskh, a smaller round script of Arabic calligraphy.

¹ Text: Rusty Edwards (1955—), © Hope Publishing. Music: *A Repository of Sacred Music: Part Second*, Harrisburg, 1813. 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.

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: Anna Briggs (1947—) ©. Music: Kenneth George Finlay (1882—1974). © Broomhill Church of Scotland, Glasgow. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹³ *Sundays and Seasons. Book of Alternative Services*.

¹⁴ Text: Frank Mason North (1850—1935), alt. © The Sisterhood of St. John the Divine. Music: William Gardiner (1770—1853), *Sacred Melodies*, 1815. Used under OneLicense A-604280.