



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 15th, 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

2 When Morning Gilds the Skies ¹

verses 1, 2, 4, 6

When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries:

“May Jesus Christ be praised!”

Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair:

“May Jesus Christ be praised!”

**Whene'er the sweet church bell peals over hill and dell,
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

**O hark to what it sings, as joyously it rings,
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

To God, the Word, on high the hosts of angels cry:

“May Jesus Christ be praised!”

Let mortals, too, upraise their voice in hymns of praise:

“May Jesus Christ be praised!”

Be this while life is mine, my canticle divine:

may Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this the eternal song through ages all along,

may Jesus Christ be praised!

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.

Wisdom of God,

from the street corners and at the entrances to the city
you proclaim the way of life and of death.

Grant us the wisdom to recognize your Messiah,

that following in the way of the cross,

we may know the way of life and glory;

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.

Wisdom cries out in the street;

in the squares she raises her voice.

At the busiest corner she cries out;

at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:

‘How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?

How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing

and fools hate knowledge?

Give heed to my reproof;

I will pour out my thoughts to you;

I will make my words known to you.

Because I have called and you refused,

have stretched out my hand and no one heeded,

and because you have ignored all my counsel

and would have none of my reproof,

I also will laugh at your calamity;

I will mock when panic strikes you,

when panic strikes you like a storm,

and your calamity comes like a whirlwind,

when distress and anguish come upon you.

Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer;

they will seek me diligently, but will not find me.

Because they hated knowledge

and did not choose the fear of the LORD,

would have none of my counsel,

and despised all my reproof,

therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way

and be sated with their own devices.

For waywardness kills the simple,

and the complacency of fools destroys them;

but those who listen to me will be secure

and will live at ease, without dread of disaster.’

Proverbs 1. 20 – 33

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19

*Cæli enarrant*³

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the firmament shows the handiwork of the Lord.

**One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,

**their sound has gone out into all lands,
and their message to the ends of the world.**

In the deep has God set a pavilion for the sun;
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.

**The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear
and gives light to the eyes.**

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever;
the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold;
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

**Let the words of my mouth
and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in your sight;
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

2nd Reading

A reading from the letter of James.

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

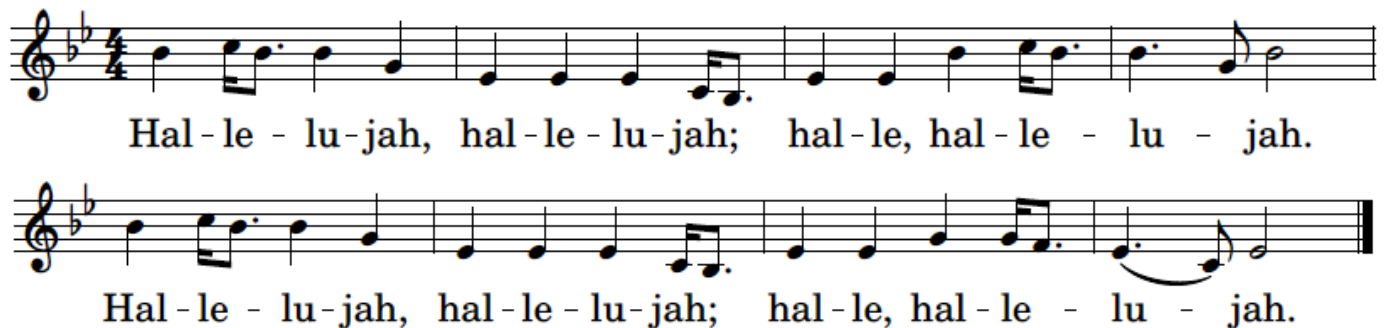
How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

James 3. 1 – 12

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The acclamation is sung



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

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that I am?’ And they answered him, ‘John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.’ He asked them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Peter answered him, ‘You are the Messiah.’ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, ‘Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.’

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my

words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

Mark 8. 27 – 38

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.

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 Hymn

430 *Will You Come and Follow Me*⁶

**Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?**

**Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?**

**Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?**

**Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?**

**Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

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.

God of wisdom and truth,

we give you heartfelt thanks for the joy of your creation,

and abundant praise for the grace of your liberating love.

You gathered the twelve tribes of Israel

and spoke your word to Elijah and the prophets.

In the fullness of time your Son gathered twelve disciples

and walked the way of the cross

that John the Baptist had prepared for him.

After his great passion and suffering,

he rose to glory on the third day.

And so with the host of heaven we gather around your throne,

singing your hymn of eternal glory.





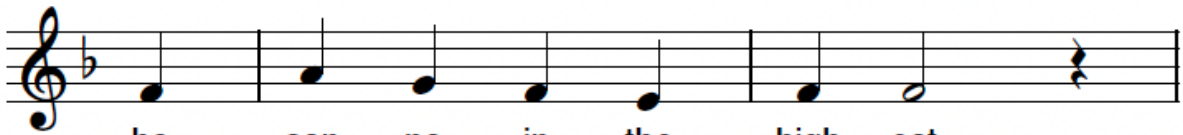
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



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.

Suffering God, your Son knew betrayal, and denial, and pain, and death.
In his broken body we see the extent of your love for us
and the depths of our rejection of you.

Send your Spirit on those gathered here,
that this meal may be an outpouring of your love
and a healing of our rejection.

Send that same Spirit upon this bread and wine, 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.

Expectant God, in your Son you were denied,
and you call us to deny ourselves:
be close to all who have been denied
by those they came to trust.

In Christ you took up a cross: give strength to all who carry his cross today.
You call us to follow in the way of life, and truth, and peace:
draw near to any who dwell amid hostility and discord.

As your Son lost his life in order to save us,
show your church where it should cease to save
and be free to lose, and where it should gladly lose,
in order the more wondrously to save and be saved.

Put a song in every weary throat
that celebrates the day of your coming
and open our eyes to see that great day,
when with the holy angels the Son of Man comes
in the power of the Spirit and the glory of the Father.



A musical score for piano accompaniment, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clefs) and a grand staff bracket. The music is in 8/8 time and B-flat major. The lyrics are "A - men, A - men, A - men." The score features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The final measure of the piece is marked 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.

**There's a quiet understanding
when we're gathered in the Spirit,
it's a promise Jesus gives us,
when we gather in his name.
There's a love we feel in Jesus,
there's a manna that he feeds us,
it's a promise Jesus gives us
when we gather in his name.**

**And we know when we're together,
sharing love and understanding,
That our brothers and our sisters
feel the oneness Jesus brings.
Thank you, Jesus, thank you Jesus,
for the way you love and feed us,
for the many ways you lead us,
thank you, gracious Lord.**

Who comes from God, as Word and Breath?

Holy Wisdom.

Who holds the keys of life and death?

Mighty Wisdom.

Crafter and Creator too,

Eldest, she makes all things new;

Wisdom guides what God would do,

Wisest One, Radiant One,

welcome, Holy Wisdom.

Who lifts her voice for all to hear?

Joyful Wisdom.

Who shapes a thought and makes it clear?

Truthful Wisdom.

Teacher, drawing out our best,

magnifies what we invest,

names our truth, directs our quest.

Wisest One, Radiant One,

welcome, Holy Wisdom.

Whom should we seek with all our heart?

Loving Wisdom.

Who, once revealed, will not depart?

Faithful Wisdom.

Partner, Counselor, Comforter,

love has found none lovelier,

life is gladness lived with her.

Wisest One, Radiant One,

welcome, Holy Wisdom.

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.**

Prayers for the Parish on Our Anniversary

Parish Announcements

Blessing

**Look forward in faith –
all time is in God’s hand.
Walk humbly with him,
and trust his future plan.
God has wisely led
his people by his power.
Look forward in hope,
he gives us each new hour.**

**Look forward in faith –
the world is in God’s care.
His purpose of love
he calls on us to share.
In our neighbour’s need
the Lord is present still.
He blesses the meek!
The earth will know God’s will.**

**Look forward in faith –
God gives us life each day.
Go onward with Christ,
the Spirit guides our way.
Now God lets us live
within the sphere of grace.
Trust ever, in him –
God rules o’er earth and space!**

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God!

*The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God,
and in loving memory of John I. Smith and Dorrie Smith,
a gift from son Doug;
and in loving memory of George McCoy and Helen McCoy,
a gift from daughter Barbara McCoy.*

Join the Nativity's fall potluck lunch

TODAY

after the 10 o'clock service!

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

Great fun, whether you're sampling or not!



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 Incarnation, Oakville;
For Anne, our metropolitan archbishop;
For Linda, our primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
remembering the Church of Nigeria;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Ruth; for Marcus; for Linda;

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 Diana Pryde;

**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 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

Our cover image is a mural of Wisdom, personified. The caption beneath the mural reads “Knowledge comes, but Wisdom lingers.” The mural is in the north corridor of the second floor of the Library of Congress Thomas Jefferson Building in Washington, DC. It was painted by Robert Lewis Reid in 1896, and the photograph we use was taken by Carol Highsmith who placed the photograph in the public domain.

¹ Text: *Katolisches Gesangbuch*, Würzburg, 1828; tr. Edward Caswall (1814—78), alt. Music: Joseph Barnby (1838—96). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

² *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*. Consultation on Common Texts, 2002.

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: John L. Bell (1949—). Music: Melody Scottish trad.; arr. John L. Bell (1949—). © 1987 WGRG Resource Group. 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 Words & Music: Tedd Smith (1927—2023), 1973. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹³ Text: Patrick Michaels (1954—), alt. © 1989 Hope Publishing Inc. Music: Melody *Choralemelodien zum heiligen Gesänge*, 1808; arr. Hal. H. Hopson (1933—). Arr. © 1991 Hope Publishing Co. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹⁴ *Sundays and Seasons*. *Book of Alternative Services*.

¹⁵ Text: Andrew J. Scobie (1935—2010), © 2005. Music: Melody Cardross, Andrea A. Steele (1945—), © . Used under OneLicense A-604280.