



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

St. Michael and All Angels

September 29th, 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

330 O Praise Ye the Lord ¹

**O praise ye the Lord! Give praise in the height;
rejoice in God's Word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens, adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.**

**O praise ye the Lord! Give praise upon earth,
in tuneful accord, give thanks for new birth;
praise God who hath brought you all grace from above,
praise God who hath taught you the pathways of love.**

**O praise ye the Lord! all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, God's glory proclaim in deep tone,
and sweet harp, the story of what God hath done.**

**O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
be ever outpoured all ages along;
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!**

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.

Eternal God,

you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order
the ministries of angels and mortals.

Grant that as your holy angels stand before you in heaven,
so at your command they may help and defend us here on earth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.'

Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!' And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

Genesis 28. 10 – 17

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord is enthroned in heaven,
and has dominion over all.

**Bless the Lord, you angels,
you mighty ones who do the bidding of God,
and hearken to the voice of the word of the Lord.**

Bless the Lord, all you hosts,
you ministers who do the will of God.

**Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord,
in all places of the dominion of the Lord;
bless the Lord, O my soul.**

A reading from the Revelation of Jesus Christ to John.

And war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming,
‘Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Messiah,
for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down,
who accuses them day and night before our God.
But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony,
for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.
Rejoice then, you heavens
and those who dwell in them!
But woe to the earth and the sea,
for the devil has come down to you
with great wrath,
because he knows that his time is short!’

Revelation 12.7–12

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 John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, ‘Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!’ Nathanael asked him, ‘Where did you come to know me?’ Jesus answered, ‘I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.’ Nathanael replied, ‘Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!’ Jesus answered, ‘Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.’ And he said to him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.’

John 1. 47–51

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. 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.

Feasting at the Table

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 # 535 *As Jacob with Travel Was Weary*⁶

**As Jacob with travel was weary one day,
at night on a stone for a pillow he lay;
he saw in a vision a ladder so high,
that its foot was on earth and its top in the sky:**

Refrain:

**Alleluia to Jesus, who died on the tree
and has raised up a ladder of mercy for me,
and has raised up a ladder of mercy for me.**

**The ladder is long, it is strong and well-made,
has stood hundreds of years and is not yet decayed;
many millions have climbed it and reached Zion's hill,
many millions by faith now are climbing it still: *Refrain***

**Come, let us ascend! All may climb it who will,
for the angels of Jacob are guarding it still;
and remember, each step that by faith we pass o'er,
many prophets and martyrs have trod it before: *Refrain***

**And when we arrive at the haven of rest,
we shall hear the glad words, "Come to me, all the blest,
here are regions of light, here are mansions of bliss."
Who would not want to climb such a ladder as this? *Refrain***

Prayer over the Gifts ⁷

God of glory,
as you have appointed angels to minister in your presence,
so may all our worship bring you worthy praise.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our 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.

It is indeed right and good,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.
You reveal your wise purpose
for the salvation of the human race
by assigning to the angels and archangels
the ministry of your steadfast love and protection.
While they contemplate your glory,
standing before you and singing your praise,
they keep a faithful vigil for us,
guarding us along the way that leads to life,
and guiding us towards the kingdom of your light.
In joyful gladness we unite our voices with theirs
and sing the ageless hymn of your praise:



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.**

Praise and thanksgiving be to you, Lord of all,
for by the Cross eternal life is ours
and death is swallowed up in victory.

In the first light of Easter
glory broke from the tomb
and changed the women's sorrow into joy.

From the Garden the mystery dawned
that he whom they had loved and lost
is with us now
in every place for ever.

Making himself known in the breaking of the bread,
speaking peace to the fearful disciples,
welcoming weary fishermen on the shore,
he renewed the promise of his presence
and of new birth in the Spirit
who sets the seal of freedom on your sons and daughters.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
recalling the night of Israel's release,
the night in which slaves walked free,
at supper with his disciples
he took bread and offered you thanks.

He broke the bread,
and gave it to them, saying:
"Take, eat.
This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup,
he offered you thanks,
and gave it to them saying:
Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.

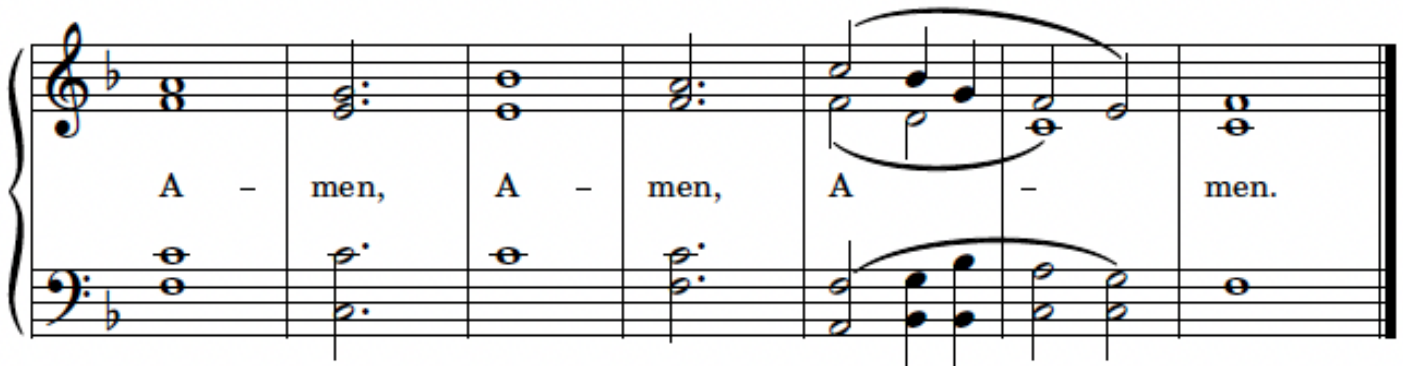
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves
a single, holy living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by his life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our sisters and brothers, living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages,
world without end.





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 Bread⁹

“I am the bread of life,” says the Lord.
“Whoever comes to me will never be hungry;
whoever believes in me will never thirst.”

**Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in God!**

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.

*You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord*¹²

**You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in his shadow for life,
say to the Lord, “My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!”**

Refrain

**And he will raise you up on eagles’ wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

**Snares of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear:
under his wings your refuge, his faithfulness your shield. *Refrain***

**You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. *Refrain***

**For to his angels he’s given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone. *Refrain***

Eternal God,
you have fed us with the bread of angels.
May we who come under their protection,
like them give you continual service and praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Generous God,
you have fed us at your heavenly table.
Kindle us with the fire of your Spirit
that when the Lord comes again
we may shine as lights before him,
who is alive and reigns in glory for ever.
Amen.

Parish Announcements

Blessing

**Ye holy angels bright, who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song,
for else the theme too high doth seem for mortal tongue.**

**Ye blessed souls at rest, who ran this earthly race
and now, from sin released, behold the Saviour's face,
your praises sound,
as in God's sight with sweet delight ye do abound.**

**Ye saints, who toil below, adore your heavenly King,
and onward as ye go some joyful anthem sing;
in God rejoice,
and thus proclaim the holy name with sounding voice.**

**My soul, bear thou thy part, triumph in God above,
and with a well-tuned heart sing thou the songs of love!
Let all thy days
till life shall end, whate'er God send, be filled with praise.**

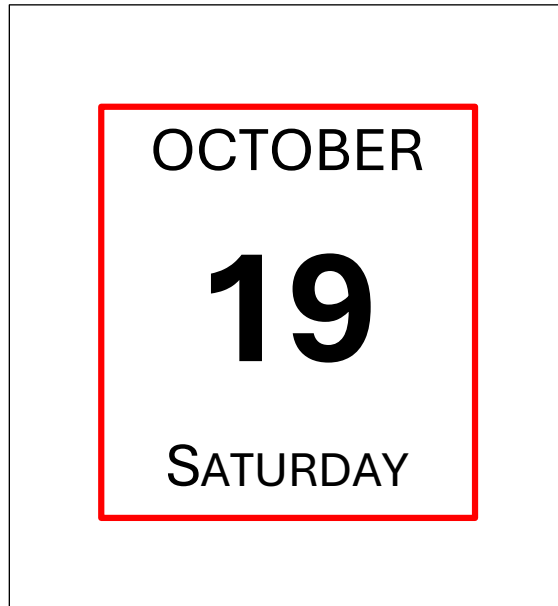
Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God!

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!



Drop us a line!

This week in the in-person announcements, worshippers will be invited to wear nametags (or request one, if they need one).

For you who join online, we'd love to hear from you. Drop us an email, and let us know how you came to worship with the Nativity and what we can hold in prayer for you!

admin@worshipwithnativity.org

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 St. Cuthbert, Oakville;
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop and Acting Primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
remembering the Church of Pakistan (United);

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Marilyn & Ron; for Yvonne; for Harold;

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 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 an icon of the “Archangel Michael and the Other Bodiless Powers” from the Orthodox tradition.

¹ Text: Albert Frederick Bayly (1901—84), alt. © 1961 Oxford UP. Music: Melody The Sacred Harp, Mason, 1844; attrib Benjamin Franklin White (1800—79). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

² Steven Shakespeare, *Prayers for an Inclusive Church*, 2008. Drawn from *Alternative Collects for Years A, B & C of the Revised Common Lectionary and Seasonal Prayers over the Gifts and after Communion*, prepared by Liturgy Task Force of the General Synod’s Faith, Worship and Ministry Committee.

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: English trad. (18th cent.). Music: Melody English trad.; arr. Gerald HJ. Knight (1908—79). Arr. © 1971 Walton Music Corporation. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁷ *Book of Alternative Services*.

⁸ Preface: *Common Worship* (Church of England). Canon: Eucharistic Prayer IV *The Scottish Liturgy* (1982), (The Scottish Episcopal Church).

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: Psalm 91; para. Michael Joncas (1951—), alt. © 1979, 1991 New Dawn Music. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹³ *Book of Alternative Services*.

An Order for the Holy Eucharist (2004), Church in Wales.

¹⁴ Text: Richard Baxter (1615—91), alt. Music: John Darwall (1731—89); desc. Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875—1947). Desc © Hope Publishing Co. Used under OneLicense A-604280.