



# Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

## Holy Eucharist

### The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 6<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*                      # 319 *Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs* <sup>1</sup>

**Come, let us join our cheerful songs with angels round the throne;  
ten thousand thousand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.**

**“Worthy the Lamb that died,” they cry, “to be exalted thus!”  
“Worthy the Lamb!” our lips reply, “for he was slain for us.”**

**Jesus is worthy to receive honour and power divine;  
and blessings, more than we can give, be, Lord, forever thine!**

**The whole creation joins in one, to bless the sacred name  
of God that sits upon the throne, and to adore the Lamb!**

## 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.

God of the living law,  
whose will is to protect the weak  
and to educate our desires:  
may we learn from you to give each other dignity  
and to find in you our unity;  
through Jesus Christ,  
who makes us one household;  
and 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 book of Job.

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD. The LORD said to Satan, 'Where have you come from?' Satan answered the LORD, 'From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.' The LORD said to Satan, 'Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one

like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason.’ Then Satan answered the LORD, ‘Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face.’ The LORD said to Satan, ‘Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life.’

So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes.

Then his wife said to him, ‘Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die.’ But he said to her, ‘You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?’ In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

*Job 1. 1, 2. 1 – 10*

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 26

*Judica me, Domine*<sup>3</sup>

Give judgement for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity;  
I have trusted in you and have not faltered.

**Test me, O Lord, and try me;  
examine my heart and my mind.**

For your love is before my eyes;  
I have walked faithfully with you.

**I have not sat with the worthless,  
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

I have hated the company of evildoers;  
I will not sit down with the wicked.

**I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,  
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

singing aloud a song of thanksgiving  
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

**Lord, I love the house in which you dwell  
and the place where your glory abides.**

Do not sweep me away with sinners,  
nor my life with those who thirst for blood,  
**whose hands are full of evil plots,  
and whose hands full of bribes.**

As for me, I will live with integrity;  
redeem me, O Lord, and have pity on me.  
**My foot stands on level ground;  
in the full assembly I will bless the Lord.**

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere, 'What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;

you have crowned them with glory and honour,  
subjecting all things under their feet.’

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying,

‘I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.’

*Hebrews 1. 1 – 4, 2. 5 – 12*

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 image shows two staves of musical notation in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

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.**

Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, ‘Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?’ He answered them, ‘What did Moses command you?’ They said, ‘Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.’ But Jesus said to them, ‘Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, “God made them male and female.” “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.’

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, ‘Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.’

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.’ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

*Mark 10. 2 – 16*

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.**

#### Confession & Absolution <sup>5</sup>

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

Offertory Hymn

# 555 *O God of Bethel, by Whose Hand*<sup>6</sup>

**O God of Bethel, by whose hand thy people still are fed,  
who through this earthly pilgrimage thy multitudes hast led:**

**our vows, our prayers, we now present before thy throne of grace.  
God of our forebears, be the God of their succeeding race.**

**Through each perplexing path of life our wandering footsteps guide;  
give us each day our daily bread and raiment fit provide.**

**O spread thy covering wings around till all our wanderings cease  
and in the city of our God our souls arrive in peace.**

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

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.**

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.**

Rightly we give you thanks and praise, gracious God,  
for whom and through whom all things exist,  
because you made us little lower than the angels  
and crowned us with glory and honour.

Long ago you spoke to us through the prophets,  
but now you have revealed yourself through your Son,  
heir of all things, reflection of your glory,  
and exact imprint of your very being.

Through him you sustain all creation by your powerful Word.

In him you made purification for sins:  
as your servant he tasted death for everyone.

And so gladly we thank you,  
with saints and angels and the whole host of heaven,  
singing your eternal song.





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.**

Merciful Father, you sent your Son as the pioneer of our salvation.  
Though we do not yet see everything in subjection to him,  
we do see Jesus crowned with honour because of his suffering death.  
Through this holy meal in your company, show us Jesus today.  
In the midst of this congregation,  
raise up your Spirit of love and joy and peace.  
Send that same Spirit on 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.**

Transforming God, visit all today  
who dwell in the throes of suffering, sorrow, pain, or distress.  
Give them courage to withstand and patience to persist.  
Take away all that would prevent your children from coming to you,  
and give your church grace to receive your kingdom like a little child.  
Receive into your arms of mercy  
any who have been dismissed or excluded  
or treated as objects of shame.  
Melt all hardness of heart into the wonder of a people  
united in your inseparable love,  
until heaven and earth are joined in the banquet of your glory,  
ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



A - men, A - men, A - men.

**Amen, amen, amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,  
let us pray as Jesus teaches us in the language and version of our comfort:

### **Our Father**

**in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory  
are yours, now and for ever.**

**who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever**

**Amen.**

*We keep silent and pray for a short time.*

## The Breaking of the Bread <sup>9</sup>

“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!**

## Communion <sup>10</sup>

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 <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.



**When long before time and the worlds were begun,  
when there was no earth and no sky and no sun,  
and all was deep silence and night reigned supreme,  
and even our Maker had only a dream...**

**...the silence was broken when God sang the Song,  
and light pierced the darkness and rhythm began,  
and with its first birth cries creation was born,  
and creaturely voices sang praise to the morn.**

**The sounds of the creatures were one with their Lord's,  
their harmonies sweet and befitting the Word;  
the Singer was pleased as the earth sang the Song,  
the choir of the creatures re-echoed it long.**

**Though, down through the ages, the Song disappeared—  
its harmonies broken and almost unheard—  
the Singer comes to us to sing it again:  
our God is with us in the world now as then.**

**The Light has returned as it came once before,  
the Song of the Lord is our own song once more;  
so let us all sing with one heart and one voice  
the song of the Singer in whom we rejoice.**

**To you, God the Singer, our voices we raise;  
to you, Song Incarnate, we give all our praise;  
to you, Holy Spirit, our life and our breath,  
be glory forever, through life and through death.**

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.**

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

**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.**

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.<sup>00</sup>*

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!

# Harvest Thanksgiving



We'll celebrate Harvest Thanksgiving  
next Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>!

If you'd like to drop off food for the food bank, and fall vegetables that we'll use first for decoration, you can do so on either:

Thursday (Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>) between 10 am and 2 pm  
*or* Saturday (Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>) between 9:30 am and 11:30 am

## **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. Jude, Oakville;  
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop and Acting Primate;  
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,  
remembering the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea;

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

For Sharon; for Frank; for Leanne & Mark, and Xavier, Shayleigh, Kyra,  
Abbygayle, Alyxandra, and Brooklyn;

### ***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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*Rector*  
*Honorary Assistant*  
*Parish Deacon*  
*Director of Music*  
*Parish Administrator*

Mrs. Jan Collinson  
Mr. David Eccles  
Ms. Gayle MacDonald  
Mr. Derek Smith

*Wardens*

## Sources

Johnson, William H., 1901 – 1970. *Come Unto Me, Little Children*, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57522> [retrieved September 27, 2024]. Original source: <https://americanart.si.edu/artwork/come-unto-me-little-children-11621>

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<sup>1</sup> Text: Isaac Watts (1674—1748), alt. Music: Henry Lahee (1826—1912). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<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: Philip Doddridge (1702—51) and John Logan (1748—88), alt;. Music: Johann Michael Haydn (1737—1806), alt. Text & Music © 1977 Scripture in Song. 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 & Melody: Peter Davison (1936—). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

<sup>13</sup> *Sundays and Seasons. An Order for Holy Communion*, Church in Wales.

<sup>14</sup> Text: Rusty Edwards (1955—), © Hope Publishing. Music: *A Repository of Sacred Music: Part Second*, Harrisburg, 1813. Used under OneLicense A-604280.