



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton
Holy Eucharist

The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

January 12th, 2025



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

103 *On Jordan's Bank*¹

**On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.**

**Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within.
Prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.**

**For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.**

**To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent doth thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Ghost for evermore.**

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.

There is one body and one Spirit,
There is one hope in God's call to us;

One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
One God and Father of all.

Let us pray.

Lord of the desert river,
you search our depths and call us by name:
may your flame-born Spirit open the heavens
that we might recognize you in the one born of earth,
Jesus Christ, the Gift of Peace;
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 prophet Isaiah.

But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honoured, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, 'Give them up',
and to the south, 'Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.'

Isaiah 43.1 – 7

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the Lord the glory due the divine name;
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders;
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

**The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendour.**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon,
**and makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;
**the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as sovereign for evermore.

**The Lord shall give strength to this people;
the Lord shall give this people the blessing of peace.**

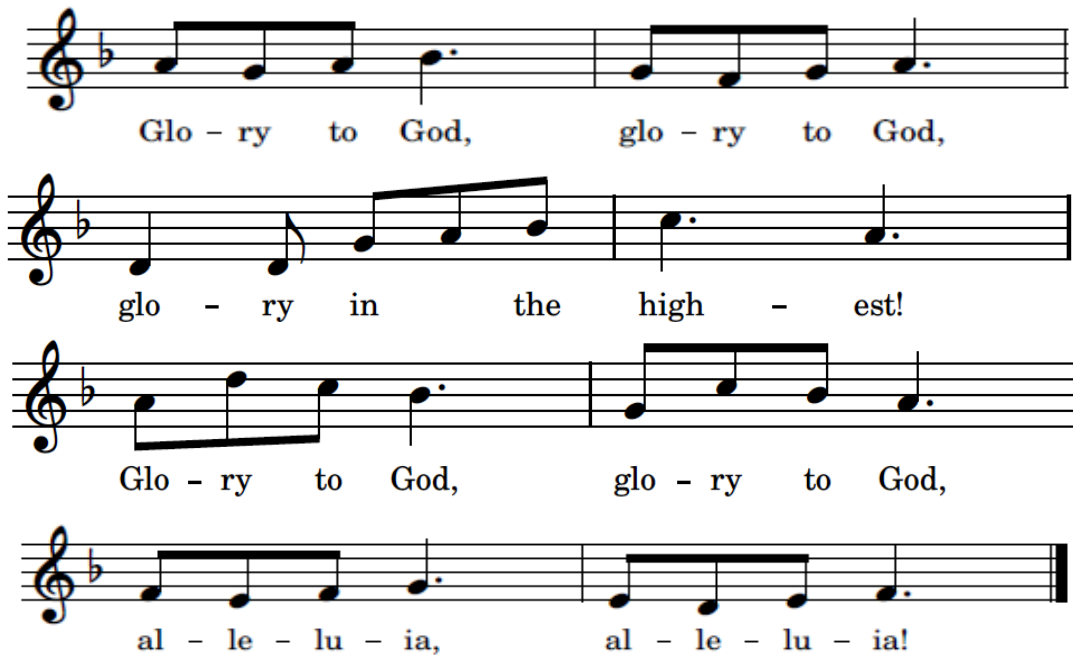
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Acts 8.14 – 17

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.



The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, ‘I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’

Luke 3. 15 – 17, 21 – 22

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God,
the fountain of living water, our rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water is poured into the font.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word, you claim us as children,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honour and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Dear friends,

through the paschal mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus,
we have been buried with Christ in baptism,
so that we may rise with him to new life.

Let us renew the promises we made in baptism,
when we rejected Satan and all his works,
and promised to serve God faithfully in God's holy catholic Church.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil
and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

With God's help, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin,
repent and return to the Lord?

With God's help, I will.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

With God's help, I will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons,
loving your neighbour as yourself?

With God's help, I will.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people,
and respect the dignity of every human being?

With God's help, I will.

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation,
and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

With God's help, I will.

God the creator, the rock of our salvation,
has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit,
and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins,
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

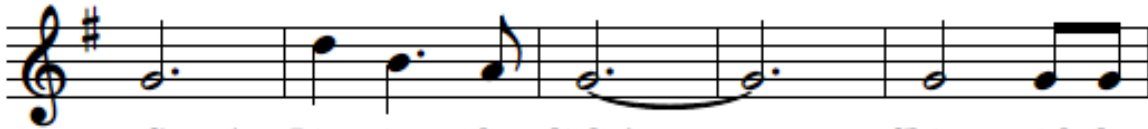
May God keep us faithful to our calling, now and for ever.

Amen.

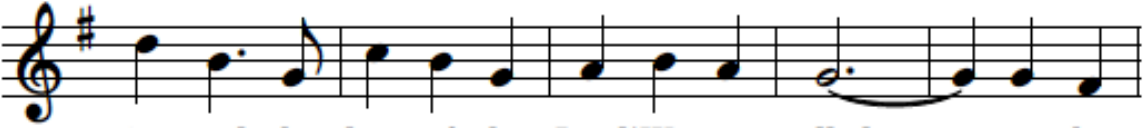
Aspersion Hymn

*We Are Called*⁴

*As we sing the hymn, the presider will move through the church and
share the water with us to remind us of our baptism into Christ.*



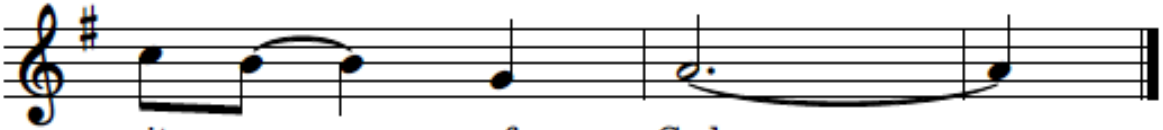
1. Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
2. Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
3. Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called to be
mer-cy to all those in fear! We are called to be
great day when all will be one! God will reign, and we'll



light for the king-dom, to live in the free-dom of the
hope for the hope-less so ha-tred and blind-ness will
walk with each oth - er as sis-ters and bro-thers u-



cit - y of God.
be no more.
-nit - ted in love.

Refrain



We are called to act with justice, we are called to



love ten-der - ly; we are called to serve one an-



-oth-er, to walk hum-bly with God.

The Prayers of the People

✠ God of Grace,
✠ **receive our prayer.**

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

627 *The Voice of God Goes Out*⁵

**The voice of God goes out to all the world,
and glory speaks across the universe.
The great King's herald cries from star to star:
with power, with justice, Christ will walk his way.**

**The Lord has said: "Receive my messenger,
my promise to the world, my pledge made flesh,
a lamp to every nation, light from Light":
with power, with justice, Christ will walk his way.**

**The broken reed he will not trample down,
nor set his heel upon the dying flame,
He binds the wounds, and health is in his hand:
with power, with justice, Christ will walk his way.**

**Anointed with the Spirit and with power,
he comes to crown with comfort all the weak,
to show the face of justice to the poor:
with power, with justice, Christ will walk his way.**

**His touch will bless the eyes that darkness held;
the lame shall run, the halting tongue shall sing,
And prisoners laugh in light and liberty:
with power, with justice, Christ will walk his way.**

Prayer over the Gifts ⁶

God of grace,
your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving ⁷

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, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son,
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



God of power and might,



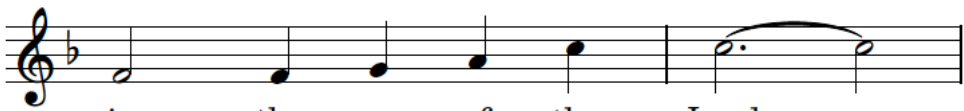
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blessed 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,
heaven 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.**

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:
the promise to Israel,
the rescue from Egypt,
the gift of the promised land,
the words of the prophets;
and, at this end of all the ages,
the gift of your Son,
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and give thanks;
broke it, and give it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God,
with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,
we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

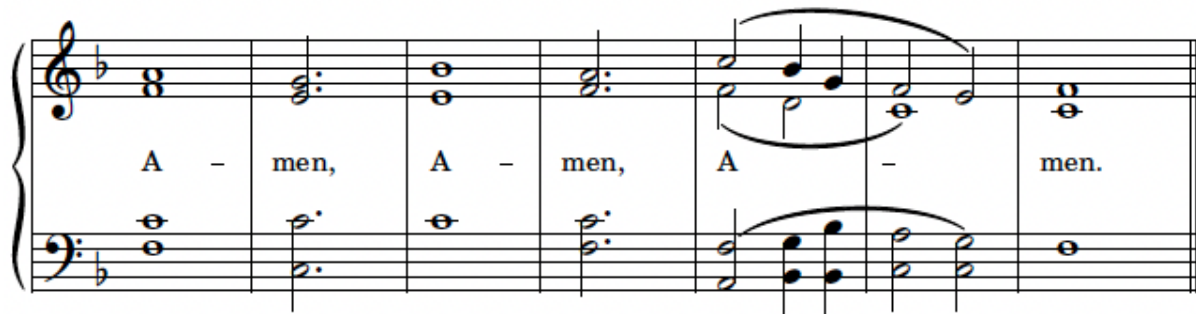
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that we who share in Christ's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



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**

**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 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.**

**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 Bread⁸

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
**God here among us, light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Communion⁹

The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.
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 ¹⁰:

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.**

**Let there be light, let there be understanding,
let all the nations gather, let them be face to face;**

**open our lips, open our minds to ponder,
open the door of concord opening into grace;**

**perish the sword, perish the angry judgment,
perish the bombs and hunger, perish the fight for gain;**

**hallow our love, hallow the deaths of martyrs,
hallow their holy freedom, hallowed be thy name;**

**thy kingdom come, thy spirit turn to language,
thy people speak together, thy spirit never fade;**

**let there be light, open our hearts to wonder,
perish the way of terror, hallow the world God made.**

Prayer after Communion ¹³

Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody
your good news of liberation and healing
for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray,
Amen.

Doxology ¹⁴

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

...
Amen.

**Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.**

**He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
Before him on the mountains shall peace the herald go,
and righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.**

**Kings shall fall down before him, and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing.
To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend,
his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.**

**O'er every foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious, all-blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove.
His name shall stand for ever: that name to us is Love.**

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace; live in hope.
Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Postlude

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. Paul, Fort Erie;
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop and Acting Primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
remembering the Church of the Province of West Africa;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Geo & Stephanie; for David & Tim; for Louise;

For the needs of the world:

For peace:

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

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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

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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.

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⁶ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁷ *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

⁸ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

⁹ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹⁰ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

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¹³ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹⁴ *Book of Alternative Services*.

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