



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

January 19th, 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 # 369 Thy Strong Word Did Cleave the Darkness ¹

**Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
at thy speaking it was done;
for created light we thank thee
while thine ordered seasons run:
alleluia, alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia without end!**

**Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
dark as night and deep as death,
broke the light of thy salvation,**

**breathed thine own life-giving breath:
alleluia, alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia without end!**

**Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
bright with thine own holiness,
glorious now, we press toward glory,
and our lives our hope confess:
alleluia, alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia without end!**

**God the Father, Light Creator,
to thee laud and honor be;
to thee, Light of Light begotten,
praise be sung eternally;
Holy Spirit, Light Revealer, glory, glory be to thee:
mortals, angels, now and ever praise the holy Trinity!**

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.

Opening Acclamation ²

Perfect Light of revelation,
**as you shone in the life of Jesus,
so shine in us and through us,
that we may become beacons of truth and compassion,
enlightening all creation with deeds of justice and mercy.
Amen.**

Let us pray.

Lord of the wedding feast,
take our hearts of stone and flood them with new wine,
so that we may savour the daily miracles
that reveal your Son in our midst, Jesus the Christ;
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.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate;
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land Married;
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.
For as a young man marries a young woman,

so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

Isaiah 62.1 – 5

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 36. 5 – 10

*Dixit injustus*⁴

Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
**Your righteousness is like the strong mountains,
your justice like the great deep;
you save both mortals and beasts, O Lord.**

How priceless is your love, O God!
Your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.
**They feast upon the abundance of your house;
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.
**Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you,
and your favour to those who are true of heart.**

A reading from the first letter to the followers of Jesus in Corinth.

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

1 Corinthians 12. 1 – 11

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God,
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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.

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, ‘They have no wine.’ And Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.’ His mother said to the servants, ‘Do whatever he tells you.’ Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, ‘Fill the jars with water.’ And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, ‘Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.’ So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, ‘Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.’ Jesus did this, the first of

his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

John 2. 1 – 11

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

The Prayers of the People

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

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

**Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbours;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;**

we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp.

Show us your loving-kindness.

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.**

Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you,
✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sin,
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 # 393 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*⁵

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish, but nought changeth thee.**

**Great Source of all glory and wisdom and light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.**

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.**

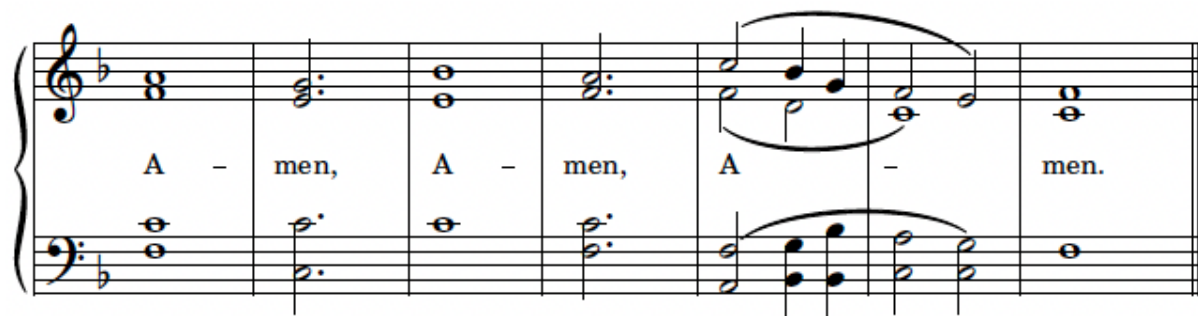
Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to those living in poverty,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honour and glory, 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
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 ⁸

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.**

Communion ⁹

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

Thanks be to God!

Spiritual Communion

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.

**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***

Prayer after Communion ¹²

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 ¹³

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.

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation.
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:
All ye who hear, brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth:
hast thou not seen how thy entreaties have been
granted in what he ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee:
ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if with his love he befriend thee.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen sound from his people again:
gladly for aye we adore him.**

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Upcoming

Sock it to me Sunday - February 2nd, 2025

In the cold of February, let's make some feet extra warm as we collect socks for folk in need—bring in new socks on Sunday, February 2nd!

Soup-er Bowl Sunday- February 9th, 2025

We're continuing our tradition of many years: using the NFL's Superbowl to help food banks in our community!

Join the 'competition'! On February 9th, we'll all bring in soup—and see which side of the church (north toward parking lot, south toward King St) can 'win'!

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. Alban, Beamsville;
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop and Acting Primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
remembering the Church of the Province of the West Indies;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Ruth & Jack; for Karen; for Vanessa, Brian, & Owen;

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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youtube.com/@nativityniagara



1831 King St. East
Hamilton, ON L8K 1V8



(905) 549-4335



admin@worshipwithnativity.org

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

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¹ Text: Martin H. Franzmann (1907—76), alt. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Music: Tune *Nettleton*, from *A Repository of Sacred Music: Part Second*, Harrisburg, 1813. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

² *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*.

³ 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.

⁴ *A Liturgical Psalter* (2016). General Synod from the Anglican Church of Canada.

⁵ Text: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824—1908), alt. Music: Melody Welsh trad.; adapt. John Roberts of Henllan (1808—76), *Caniadau y Cyssegr* 1839. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁶ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁷ *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. Prayer V.

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.

¹¹ Text and music: Psalm 91; para. Michael Joncas (1951—), alt. © 1979, 1991 New Dawn Music. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹² *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹³ *Book of Alternative Services*.

¹⁴ Text: Joachim Neander (1650—1680); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827—78), alt. Music: *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Straslund, 1665, alt. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹⁵ Swanson, John August. Wedding Feast, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58581> [retrieved January 14, 2025]. Original source: Estate of John August Swanson, <https://www.johnaugustswanson.com/>