



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton
Holy Eucharist

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 9th, 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

350 *Stand Up and Bless the Lord*¹

**Stand up and bless the Lord,
you people of God's choice;
stand up and bless the Lord of hosts
with heart and soul and voice.**

Though high above all praise,
above all blessing high,
who would not fear God's holy name,
and laud and magnify!

O for the living flame
from God's own altar brought,
to touch our lips, our minds inspire,
and wing to heaven our thought!

God is our strength and song,
who makes salvation ours;
then be God's love in Christ proclaimed
with all our ransomed powers.

Stand up and bless the Lord;
the Lord your God adore;
stand up and bless the glorious name
henceforth 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.

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.

The Collect ³

Let us pray.

Lord of the deep waters,
you call us from the safety of the shore to an adventure of the Spirit:
open wide our arms to embrace the world you dare us to serve;
through Jesus Christ your living Word,
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.

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

‘Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.’

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: ‘Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!’

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: ‘Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.’ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I; send me!’ And he said, ‘Go and say to this people:

“Keep listening, but do not comprehend;
keep looking, but do not understand.”

Make the mind of this people dull,
and stop their ears,
and shut their eyes,
so that they may not look with their eyes,
and listen with their ears,
and comprehend with their minds,

and turn and be healed.’
Then I said, ‘How long, O Lord?’ And he said:
‘Until cities lie waste
without inhabitant,
and houses without people,
and the land is utterly desolate;
until the LORD sends everyone far away,
and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.
Even if a tenth part remains in it,
it will be burned again,
like a terebinth or an oak
whose stump remains standing
when it is felled.’
The holy seed is its stump.

Isaiah 6. 1 – 13

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

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your love and faithfulness;**

for you have glorified your name
and your word above all things.

**When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.**

All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

**They will sing of the ways of the Lord,
that great is the glory of the Lord.**

Though you are high, you care for the lowly;
you perceive the haughty from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your mighty hand shall save me.

**O Lord, you will make good your purpose for me;
your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.**

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

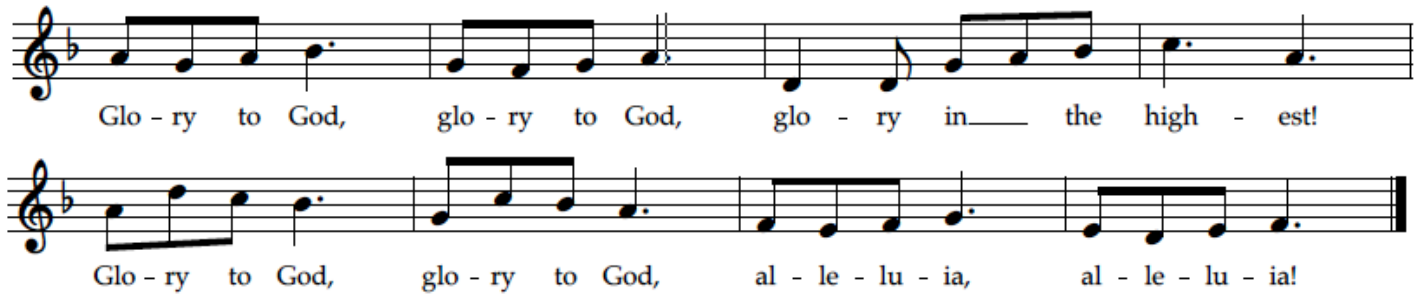
Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

1 Corinthians 15. 1 – 11

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.** ♪

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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

328 *Lo, God Is Here! Let Us Adore* ⁵

**Lo, God is here! let us adore,
and own how awesome is this place;
let all within us feel God's power
and bow before the hidden face.
Redeeming Lord, your grace we prove,
serve you with awe, with reverence love.**

Lo, God is here! Both day and night
united choirs of angels sing;
to God, enthroned above all height,
heaven's host their noblest praises bring;
d disdain not, Lord, our meaner song,
who praise you with a stammering tongue.

Being of beings, may our praise
your courts with grateful fragrance fill;
still may we stand before your face,
still hear and do your sovereign will;
to you may all our thoughts arise,
ceaseless, accepted sacrifice.

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.

Holy, holy, holy are you, Lord God of hosts,
for all the earth is full of your glory.

From your heavenly throne you touched the lips of your prophet Isaiah to
remove his guilt;

and you sent him to awaken your people.

In the fulness of time you sent your Son,

proclaiming through his lips your promise of life

and through his death and resurrection your forgiveness of sins.

At his ascension he sent forth his disciples in your name,

trusting your good news to the lips of the redeemed.

And so we give our thanks and praise

in the great company of sinners become saints,

joining together in 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.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in a single system, all using a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, -' and ends with a fermata over the final note. The second staff continues with 'God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The third staff continues with 'Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the' and ends with a fermata. The fourth staff concludes with 'high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' and ends with a double bar line.

**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.**

Plenteous God, as you transformed fishermen into followers
and filled empty nets with more than their boat could hold,
show us your abundance in the joy of this feast.
Sanctify us by your Holy Spirit that we might be faithful followers,
sent into the world in strength.
By your same Spirit, make this bread and cup be for us
the body and blood of your Son 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.

God of holy presence, in your temple, the ordinary is made holy.
Before your throne of grace, make your children into prophets of peace
and heralds of mercy.
Bless every person with courage to follow where you call,

trusting the depth of your purpose.
Meet with your grace every soul rendered an outcast
by the judgements of others,
and restore the fallen as your faithful followers.
Renew your church to seek you in your dwelling places,
among those living in poverty and those who are forgotten,
those who are sick and those imprisoned,
those who hunger and those without homes.
Gather all your children into your holy presence
as you draw angels around your throne;
until we enter your eternal temple in fullness of joy
and dwell with you for ever,
one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



A musical score for the phrase "Amen, amen, amen." The score is written for piano in a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The lyrics "A - men, a - men, a - men." are written below the treble staff. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with some notes in the bass staff. The first two measures are marked with a repeat sign. The final measure is marked with a double bar line.

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.

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded, for, with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to us approacheth, our full homage to demand.**

**King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.**

**At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye
veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry:
“Alleluia, alleluia! alleluia, Lord Most High!”**

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.

**God, we praise you! God, we bless you!
God, we name you sovereign Lord!
Mighty King whom angels worship,
Father, by your Church adored:
all creation shows your glory.
Heaven and earth draw near your throne,
singing "Holy, holy, holy,
Lord of hosts, and God alone!"**

**True apostles, faithful prophets,
saints who set their world ablaze,
martyrs, once unknown, unheeded,
join one growing song of praise,
while your Church on earth confesses
one majestic Trinity:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
God, our hope eternally.**

**Jesus Christ, the King of glory,
everlasting Son of God,
humble was your virgin mother,
hard the lonely path you trod;
by your cross is sin defeated,
hell confronted face to face,
heaven opened to believers,
sinners justified by grace.**

**Christ, at God's right hand victorious,
you will judge the world you made.
Lord, in mercy help your servants**

**for whose freedom you have paid:
raise us up from dust to glory,
guard us from all sin today,
King enthroned above all praises,
save your people, God, we pray.**

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Announcements, announcements, ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Boiler Bonus

Many of us have been receiving a \$200 cheque in the mail, courtesy of the provincial government. One parishioner thought— "hey, I can put that to good use, what with the church's boiler troubles!"

They've donated their cheque to the church—and they've made an offer—they'll make an additional contribution for each additional parishioner who donates their cheque, too.

On the table in the narthex, you'll find a blue envelope labeled "Bonus Boiler Bucks" if you want to join in!



Sock it to me Sunday

Sock it to Me Sunday brought in 459 pairs of socks! Women's, children's, and men's socks; Dress, work, ankle, and athletic socks; store-bought and hand-knit--thank you for bringing warmth to others!



Shrove Tuesday Pancakes March 4th

Lunch AND Supper

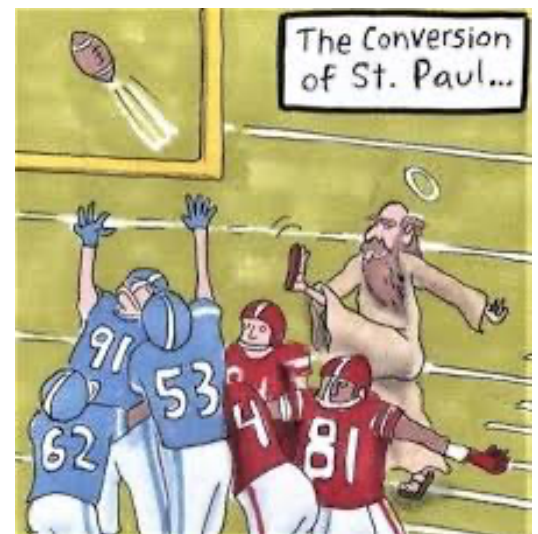
Enjoy pancakes this year at lunch OR supper! Shrove Tuesday is March 4th Lunch will be served from 12 noon to 1^{pm}, and supper will be served from 5^{pm} until 6^{pm}

Invite your friends, neighbours, and family!
Tickets \$10; children under 5 are free

We are selling tickets in advance to assist with planning.

Soup-er Bowl Sunday!

Thank you for bringing in soup today! While we'll have to wait to see which of the gospel side or the epistle side brings in more soup than the other, we know who really wins – the people with whom you're sharing!



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. Saviour the Brock Memorial Church, Niagara Falls;

For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop and Acting Primate;

For the worldwide Anglican Communion,

remembering the Anglican Church of Australia;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Elaine, Brian, Kyle, Derek, and Trevor Fleming; for June Enwright; for Hazel Flynn;

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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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 “Draft of Fishes” by the English artist Peter Winfried (Canisius) Koenig. He has granted permission for the non-commercial use of this image with attribution. We are grateful to him for sharing his gifts! ¹⁵

¹ Text: James Montgomery (1771 – 1854). Music: Aaron Williams (1731 – 76). 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: Gerhard Tersteegen (1697 – 1769); tr. John Wesley (1703 – 91). Music: Henri F. Hemy (1818 – 88); adapt. James G. Walton (1821 – 1905).

⁵ Text: Psalm 150; para. Henry Williams Baker (1821 – 77), alt. Music: Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848 – 1918). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁶ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁷ *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

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: The Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie (1829 – 85). Music: French carol (17th c.). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹² *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹³ *Book of Alternative Services*.

¹⁴ Text: *You are God (Te Deum, Latin hymn 400?)*; para. Christopher Idle (1938 –). Para © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Sung to: Music: Franz Josef Haydn (1732 – 1809). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹⁵ Koenig, Peter. Draft of Fishes, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act->

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