

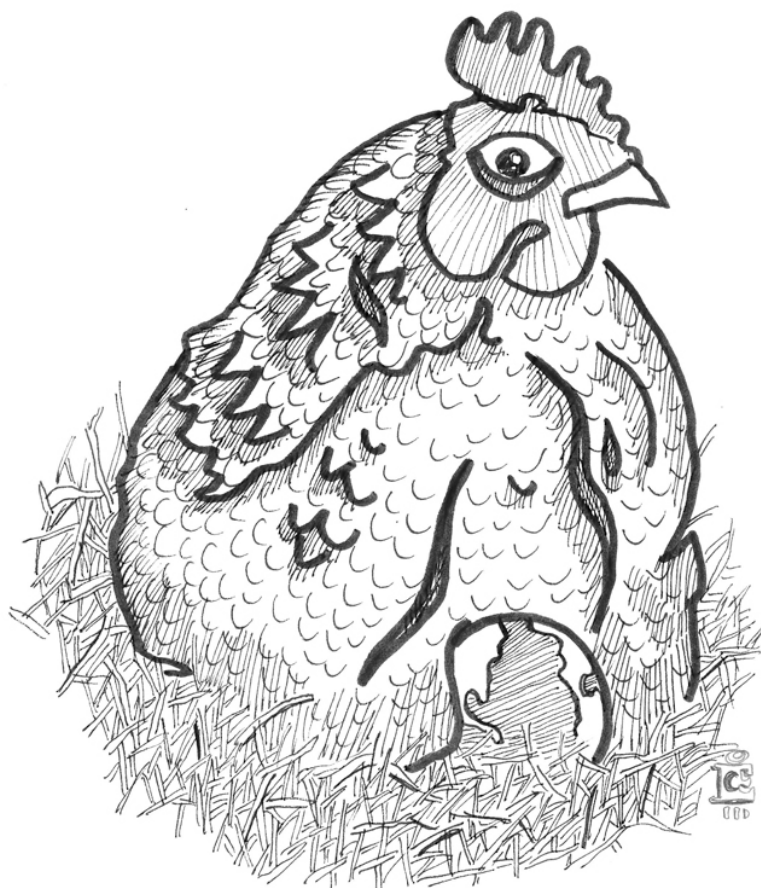


# Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

## Holy Eucharist

### The Second Sunday in Lent

March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025



## Web Edition

*Called to Life — Compelled to Love*



We will strive to live up to our responsibilities as members of the Dish with One Spoon wampum, first established between the Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee to set out how this part of Turtle Island would be shared.

**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.*

Territorial Acknowledgment

Silent Procession

Confession

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us return to God,  
confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*Silence is kept.*

Compassionate One,  
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world.  
We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.  
We do not welcome others  
with the radical hospitality you grant to all people.  
We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again.  
We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.  
Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross.  
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.

Let us pray.

Brooding Spirit,

beneath your wings there is creation and life:  
accompany us on the difficult path  
with the disappeared, the broken and the fearful,  
so that we find the way to the city of our peace  
where we are all accepted as your beloved;  
through the cross of Jesus Christ, our only Lord.

**Amen.**

## Unfolding the Scriptures

1<sup>st</sup> Reading

A reading from the book of Genesis.

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, 'I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

*Genesis 15. 1 – 12, 17 – 18*

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom then shall I fear?

**The Lord is the strength of my life;  
of whom then shall I be afraid?**

When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh,  
it was they, my foes and my adversaries,  
who stumbled and fell.

**Though an army should encamp against me,  
yet my heart shall not be afraid;  
and though war should rise up against me,  
yet will I put my trust in God.**

One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life,  
**beholding the fair beauty of the Lord  
and seeking God in the temple.**

For in the day of trouble, O God,  
you shall keep me safe in your shelter;  
**you shall hide me in the secrecy of your dwelling  
and set me high upon a rock.**

Even now you lift up my head  
above my enemies round about me.  
**Therefore I will offer in your dwelling  
an oblation with sounds of great gladness;  
I will sing and make music to the Lord.**

Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call;  
have mercy on me and answer me.  
**You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face."  
Your face, Lord, will I seek.**

Hide not your face from me,  
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.  
**You have been my helper; cast me not away;  
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.**

Though my father and my mother forsake me,  
the Lord will sustain me.  
**Show me your way, O Lord;  
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.**

Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries,  
for false witnesses have risen up against me,  
and also those who speak malice.  
**What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the Lord  
in the land of the living!**

O tarry and await the pleasure of the Lord;  
be strong, and God shall comfort your heart;  
**wait patiently for the Lord.**

A reading from the letter to the followers of Jesus in Philippi.

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation so that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

*Philippians 3. 17 – 4. 1*

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

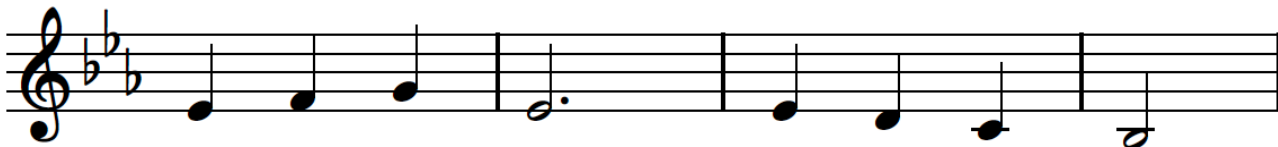




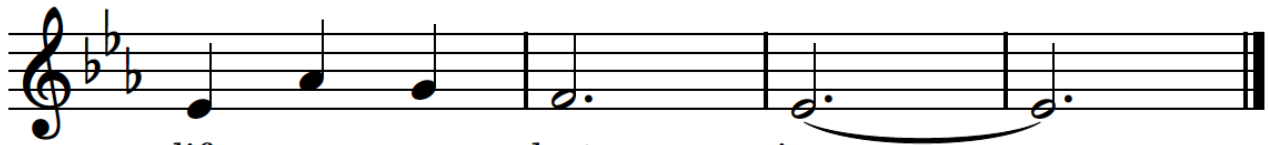
Your words are spir - it and life, O Lord;



Your words are spir - it and life, O Lord:



rich - er than gold, strong - er than death.



life ev - er - last - ing.

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.** ♪

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, ‘Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.’ He said to them, ‘Go and tell that fox for me, “Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem.” Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you.

And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say,  
“Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.” ’

*Luke 13. 31 – 35*

The Gospel of Christ.

♪ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. ♪

Homily

Affirmation of Faith <sup>4</sup>

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine,  
Jesus did not cling to equality with God,  
but made himself nothing.

**Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness.  
He humbled himself and was obedient to death,  
even the death of the cross.**

**Therefore God has raised him on high,  
and given him the name above every name:  
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

✠ God, in your mercy,  
✠ receive our prayer.

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 Song

*Teach Us to Love Your Word, Lord*

*Refrain:*

**Teach us to love your word, Lord;  
let it cleanse us through and through.  
As we open our hearts to obey you,  
break us, remake us anew**

**Your people were slaves in Egypt; your mighty word set them free.  
Calling them into a new land, you led them safe through the sea.**

*Refrain...*

**When we were yet not a people, your word gathered us in.  
You made of us a new nation to praise you in wonder and love.**

*Refrain...*

**Teach us to walk in your way, Lord. Your kindness to us sets us free,  
turns us to love one another, sharing your mercy and peace.**

*Refrain...*

## Prayer over the Gifts <sup>5</sup>

Gracious Provider,  
you set your immense treasures among us,  
opening your heart to the world.  
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,  
deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others,  
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving <sup>6</sup>

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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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 pow - er and might,  
 hea - ven 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.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
 Hosanna in the highest.  
 Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people

through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup

we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places,

with the earth and all its creatures,

with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God,

blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

A musical score for the text "Amen, amen, amen." The score is written for a piano and voice. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff for the voice and a bass clef staff for the piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 8/8. The lyrics are: "A - men, a - men, a - men." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords and a melody in the right hand. The voice part is a simple melody with long notes and rests.

**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>7</sup>

We break this bread,  
**Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.  
**If we have died with Christ, we shall live with Christ.**  
**If we hold firm, we shall reign with Christ.**

## Communion <sup>8</sup>

All who are hungry, come!  
The feast of grace is spread.  
**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 <sup>9</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.

**God, when I stand, no path before me clear,  
when every prayer seems prisoner of my pain;  
come with a gentleness which calms my fear,  
Lord of my helplessness, my victory gain.**

**When all my prayers no answer seem to bring,  
and there is silence in my deepest soul;  
when in the wilderness I find no spring,  
Lord of the desert places, keep me whole.**

**When the dark lord of loneliness prevails,  
and, all defeated, joy and friendship die;  
come, be my joy, such love that never fails,  
pierce the self-pity of my shadowed sky.**

**When as did Thomas, I presume thee dead,  
feeling and faith itself within me cold,  
freshen my lips with wine, my soul with bread,  
banish my poverty with heaven's gold.**

## Prayer after Communion <sup>11</sup>

Generous Host,

you have shared your feast with us and made us new.

Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,  
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,  
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Parish Announcements

## Solemn Prayer Over the People <sup>12</sup>

Let us bow down before the Lord.

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy,  
that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace,  
they may be upheld by your divine protection;  
through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power,  
now fulfill your church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo, the hosts of evil round us scorn your Christ, assail his ways.  
Fears and doubts too long have bound us;  
free our hearts to work and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.**

**Cure your children's warring madness. Bend our pride to your control.  
Shame our wanton selfish gladness, rich in goods and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal, lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**Set our feet on lofty places, gird our lives that they may be  
armoured with all Christ-like graces in the fight for liberty.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we fail ourselves and thee, lest we fail ourselves and thee.**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.  
**Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

**Today's flowers are given  
to the greater glory of God,**

*and*

**in**

# psst! Have you heard the announcements?

## **Joint Lenten Series!**

Lent came into being as the season that prepared people for baptism at Easter. Join in as we visit other Anglican parishes and reflect together on the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed, praying, and Baptism.

Check out the poster in the narthex and pick up a bookmark that has times and places for each session!

This Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>,  
we'll gather at All Saints' Mission from 7 – 9 pm.

The Very Reverend Tim Dobbin and the Reverend Monica Green  
will be presenting on the Lord's Prayer.

## 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 Christ Church, Wainfleet;  
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop and Acting Primate;  
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,  
and especially the Church of the Province of Central Africa;

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

For Sean, Sylvia, Grace, Gwyneth, and George; for Hugh & Georgia;  
for Albert;

### *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 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

Our cover image “Under Her Wings” by Trey Everett. <sup>14</sup>

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<sup>1</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>2</sup> *A Liturgical Psalter* (2016). General Synod from the Anglican Church of Canada.

<sup>3</sup> Text: Based on Psalm 19. 8 – 11; Bernadette Farrell (1957 – ). Music: Bernadette Farrell. Text and music © 1993, Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

<sup>4</sup> Affirmation E9 (cf. Philippians 2.6–11), *Common Worship*. Church of England.

<sup>5</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>6</sup> *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Prayer IV.

<sup>7</sup> *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

<sup>8</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>9</sup> 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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<sup>11</sup> *Sundays and Seasons*.

<sup>12</sup> *The Book of Occasional Services 2003*. The Episcopal Church. © 2004 Church Pension Fund.

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