



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

The Sunday of the Passion
with the Liturgy of the Palms

April 13th, 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 in the church to provide a time for quiet prayer and preparation.

The congregation is encouraged to gather, milling about in the chapel—where there are seats—and in the narthex (lobby), and along the front walk. Pick up some palm fronds to wave! If you'd prefer not to be part of the procession, you are welcome to collect a frond and find a seat in the nave of the church.

Territorial Acknowledgment

Welcome ¹

Hosanna to the Son of David!
Hosanna to the Son of David!

Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the source of all being and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Amen.

Dear Friends in Christ,
during Lent we have been preparing
for the celebration of our Lord's paschal mystery.
On this day our Lord Jesus Christ
entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph.
The people welcomed with palms and shouts of praise,
but the path before him led to self-giving, suffering, and death.
Today we greet him as our king,
although we know his crown is thorns and his throne a cross.
We follow him this week from the glory of the palms
to the glory of the resurrection
by way of the dark road of suffering and death.
United with him in his suffering on the cross,
may we share his resurrection and new life.

Psalm 118

Confitemini Domino

I will give thanks to the Lord
who answered me and has become my salvation.
**The same stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**

Hosanna, Lord, hosanna! Lord, send us now success.
**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;
we bless you from the house of the Lord.**

God is the Lord and has shined upon us;
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.
**Give thanks to the Lord who is good;
the mercy of the Lord endures for ever.**

Let us pray.

All raise their palms in the air.

Holy and immortal God,
as we enter into this holy week,
turn our hearts to Jerusalem,
so that, united with Christ and all the faithful,
we may enter the city not made with hands,
your promised realm of justice and peace.
Let these branches be for us signs of Christ's victory,
and grant that we who bear them in his name
may ever hail him as our king,
following him in the way that leads to eternal life.

Amen.

All are invited to join in the procession following the clergy and server.

Let us go forth in peace.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Processional Hymn

181 *All Glory, Laud, and Honour* ²

Refrain: **All glory, laud, and honour to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

**Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest, the king and blessed One.**

Refrain

**The company of angels are praising thee on high,
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.**

Refrain

**The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present.**

Refrain

To thee, before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee now high exalted our melody we raise.

Refrain

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King!

Refrain

The Collect of the Day ³

Let us pray.

Lord of the swaying palms,
the stones of earth and the beasts of burden
bear witness to your coming:
lead us from the violence of empire and the collusion of crowds
to a heart of flesh,
a world re-made
and new song for all creation;
through Jesus Christ, the Crucified God,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Peace

Having offered our thanks and praise,
let us share in God's peace as we gather.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading ⁴

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord GOD has given me
a trained tongue,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens,
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I did not turn backward.
I gave my back to those who struck me
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?
Let us stand in court together.

Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.

It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

All of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

Isaiah 50. 4 – 9^a

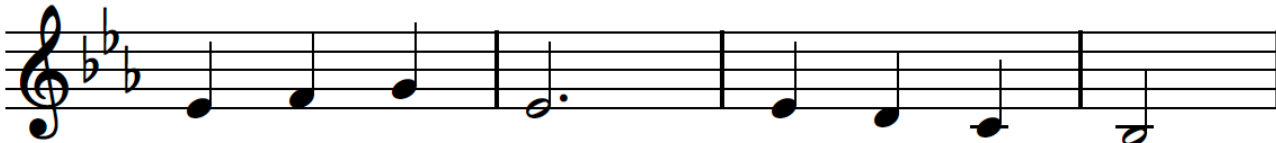
Listen for the leading of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

2nd Reading
& Affirmation of Faith
Philippians 2. 5 – 11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited, but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death —
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



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



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



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



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.** ♪

Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.' "

So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road.

Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

"Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

Luke 19. 28 – 40

The Gospel of Christ.

♪ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. ♪

Homily

The Prayers of the People

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

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

184 *My Song Is Love Unknown*⁶

**My song is love unknown, my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I, that for my sake
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?**

**He came from his blest throne salvation to bestow;
but all made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know:
but O my friend, my friend indeed,
who at my need his life did spend.**

**Sometimes they strew his way, and his sweet praises sing,
resounding all the day hosannas to their King;
then "Crucify!" is all their breath,
and for his death they thirst and cry.**

**Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise.**

**They rise and needs will have my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save, the Prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes,
that he his foes from thence might free.**

**Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine,
never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine!
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!**

Prayer over the Gifts ⁷

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 ⁸

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,
whose suffering and death gave salvation to all.

You gather your people around the tree of the cross,
transforming death into life.
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.**

Hosanna is our cry, Blessed One.

Your Son comes on a donkey in your name.

As Jesus entered Jerusalem

to bear our sorrows and suffer for our sins,

enter our hearts and confront our waywardness today.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us,

that we may be your Son's crucified and risen body.

Send your Spirit upon this bread that it may be living bread,

and on this wine that it may be the cup of salvation,

that together they may 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.

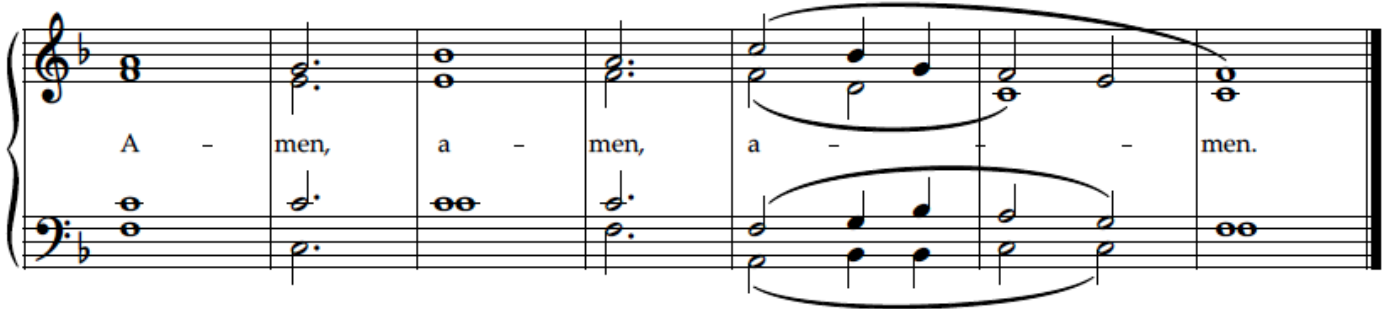
Humble God,

your Son did not exploit his status but emptied himself.

Pour out your Spirit on all who are exploited, in world or church,
on all who are humbled, by state or employer or family member,
on all who are emptied of hope, faith, or love.

As you highly exalted your Son who had become a slave,
highly exalt your children who suffer for righteousness,
or grieve those they have cherished,
or bend the knee to one who does not honour them.

Fill the earth with your justice and peace,
until every heart shall sing and every tongue confess
that you are the joy of their desiring,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
ever one God, in all ages and forevermore.



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 ⁹

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 ¹⁰

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 ¹¹:

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 hail thee now, O Jesus: thy presence here we own,
though sight and touch have failed us, and faith perceives alone.
Thy love has veiled thy glory and hid thy power divine,
in mercy to our weakness, beneath an earthly sign.**

**We hail thee now, O Jesus: in silence hast thou come,
for all the hosts of heaven with wonderment are dumb –
so great the condescension, so marvellous the love,
which for our sakes, O Saviour, have drawn thee from above.**

**We hail thee now, O Jesus: for law and type have ceased,
and thou in each communion art sacrifice and priest.
We make this great memorial in union, Lord, with thee,
and plead thy death and passion to cleanse and set us free.**

**We hail thee now, O Jesus: for death is ever near,
and in thy presence only its terrors disappear.
Dwell with us, sweetest Saviour, and guide us through the night,
till shadows end in glory, and faith be lost in sight.**

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.

Announcements

Thanksgiving for the Palm Project

Some words of thanks will be offered, concluding with this prayer:

Humble Jesus, Word Eternal,
who enfleshed, walked among us,
and humbly and meekly entered Jerusalem,
riding on a donkey, greeted by the waving of palms;
we thank you for calling us
to share in the ministry of Palm making over many years.
We thank you for every hand that has, in prayerful service,
Prepared Palms for the worship of your church,
here, and across the Diocese, and beyond.
We thank you for the joy of the community,
for the stories and laughter shared,
and the hope and faith that has been nurtured.
As we lay down this ministry,
may it be a coat of honour
that has marked your way among us,
and may we never cease to raise our Palms in our hearts,
and join the chorus of all who welcome you
on earth and in heaven:

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Alleluia.

Amen.



The Love that clothes itself in light,
stands naked now, despised, betrayed,
receiving blows to face and head
from hands that Love itself has made.

The Love that lifts the stars and sun,
collapses, spent, beneath the cross;
the Love that fills the universe,
goes on to death and total loss.

Love, helpless, comes to Calvary,
rejected, scorned and crucified;
Love hangs in shame, and dies alone,
but Love abased, is glorified.

Extinguished with the sun at noon,
Love's light transcends all history;
Love, wrapped in linen, Love entombed,
still wraps all heaven in mystery.

**Though Love is lost, Love finds us here;
though Love is absent, Love remains;
where Love is finished, Love begins;
where Love is dead, Love lives and reigns!**

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.
Christ humbled himself,
and became obedient to death, even death on a cross.
Therefore God has highly exalted him
and given him the name that is above every name.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

The passion gospel is read; due to its length, you may wish to remain seated.

After the gospel is read

The Passion of our Lord.

No response is made; a silence is kept.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;
by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

We preach Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of God.
by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

God forbid that I should glory,
save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.
**We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;
by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**

Solemn Prayer Over the People ¹⁵

Let us bow down before the Lord.

Almighty God,

we pray you graciously to behold this your family,

for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed,

and given into the hands of sinners,

and to suffer death upon the cross;

who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

Dismissal ¹⁶

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God!

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. Alban the Martyr, Acton;

For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop and Acting Primate;

For the worldwide Anglican Communion,

and especially the Church of England;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For all who have participated in the Palm Project in its thirty-four years;

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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Mr. David Eccles
Ms. Gayle MacDonald
Mr. Derek Smith

Wardens

Sources

Our cover image is a Coptic icon of the Triumphal Entry.

¹ *Times and Seasons*. Church of England.

² Text: Theodolphus of Orleans (750? – 821), tr. John Mason Neale (1818 – 66), alt. Music: Melody Melchior Teschner (1584 – 1635); harm. William Henry Monk (1823 – 89); desc. Alfred Leslie Rose, SSJE (1890 – 1970). Desc. © The Society of St. John the Evangelist.

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.

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⁵ Gospel Acclamation. 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. For biblical copyright information, see endnote 3.

⁶ Text: Samuel Crossman (1624? – 83), alt. Music: John N. Ireland (1879 – 1962). © The John Ireland Trust. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁷ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁸ *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Preface for Passion Sunday. Canon *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

⁹ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

¹⁰ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹¹ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

¹² Text: Frederick George Scott (1861 – 1944), alt. Music: Frederick Charles Maker (1844 – 1927). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹³ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹⁴ Text Alan Gaunt (1935—). © 1991 Stainer & Bell, Ltd. (Administered by Hope Publishing Co.) Music: Melody *Lochamer Liederbuch*, 1450?, alt.; harm. Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809—47), alt. Used under OneLicense A-604280

¹⁵ *The Book of Occasional Services 2003*. The Episcopal Church. © 2004 Church Pension Fund.

¹⁶ *Sundays and Seasons*.