



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Second Sunday of Easter

April 27th, 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.

Territorial Acknowledgment

Awake, Arise, Lift Up Your Voice

**Awake, arise, lift up your voice,
let Easter music swell;
rejoice in Christ, again rejoice,
and on his praises dwell.**

**Oh, with what gladness and surprise
the saints their Saviour greet;
nor will they trust their ears and eyes
but by his hands and feet:**

**those hands of liberal love indeed
in infinite degree,
those feet still free to move and bleed
for millions and for me.**

**His enemies had sealed the stone
as Pilate gave them leave,
lest dead and friendless and alone
he should their skill deceive.**

**O Dead arise! O Friendless stand
by seraphim adored!
O Solitude again command
your host from heaven restored!**

Alleluia, alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia, alleluia!

May Christ's grace and peace be with you!

May Christ fill our hearts with joy!

The Collect of the Day ³

Let us pray.

Alpha and Omega, our beginning and our end,
you break through the locks of gated communities and hardened hearts:
accept our doubts,
heal our desire for certainty and,
by your Spirit's gentle touch,
make us a people forgiven and forgiving;
through Jesus Christ, the Giver of Peace;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading ⁴

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

Acts 5. 27 – 32

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Give thanks to the Lord who is good;
the mercy of the Lord endures for ever.

**Let Israel now proclaim,
“The mercy of the Lord endures for ever.”**

The Lord is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.
**There is a sound of exultation and victory
in the tents of the righteous:**

“The mighty hand of the Lord has triumphed!
the mighty hand of the Lord is exalted!
the mighty hand of the Lord has triumphed!”
**I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the Lord.**

The Lord has punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.
**Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.**

“This is the gate of the Lord;
those who are righteous may enter.”
**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.
**This is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.
On this day the Lord has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! 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.**

"You are my God, and I will thank you;
you are my God, and I will exalt you."

**Give thanks to the Lord who is good;
the mercy of the Lord endures for ever.**

A reading from the Revelation of Jesus Christ to John.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.
So it is to be. Amen.

‘I am the Alpha and the Omega’, says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Revelation 1. 4 – 8

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 John.

♪ **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.** ♪

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them

and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

John 20. 19 – 31

The Gospel of Christ.

♪ **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.** ♪

Homily

The Apostles' Creed

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,
I believe in God,
the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

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.

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. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

✠ God of grace,
✠ hear our prayer.

The peace of the risen Lord be always with you!
And also with you.

Feasting at the Table

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 # 309 *Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet* ⁷

**Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet,
praise the Lord with the harp and lute,
praise the Lord with the gentle sounding flute.**

**Praise the Lord in the field and forest,
praise the Lord in the city square,
praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.**

**Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine,
praise the Lord in the dark of night,
praise the Lord in the rain or snow or in the morning light.**

**Praise the Lord in the deepest valley,
praise the Lord on the highest hill,
praise the Lord, never let your voice be still.**

**Praise the Lord with the crashing cymbal,
praise the Lord with the pipe and string,
praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.**

Praise the Lord on a weekday morning,
praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,
praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.

Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow,
praise the Lord in the time of joy,
praise the Lord in the every moment, nothing let your praise destroy.

Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet,
praise the Lord in your work or play,
praise the Lord every where in every way!

Prayer over the Gifts ⁸

Risen One,
you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.
Amen.

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

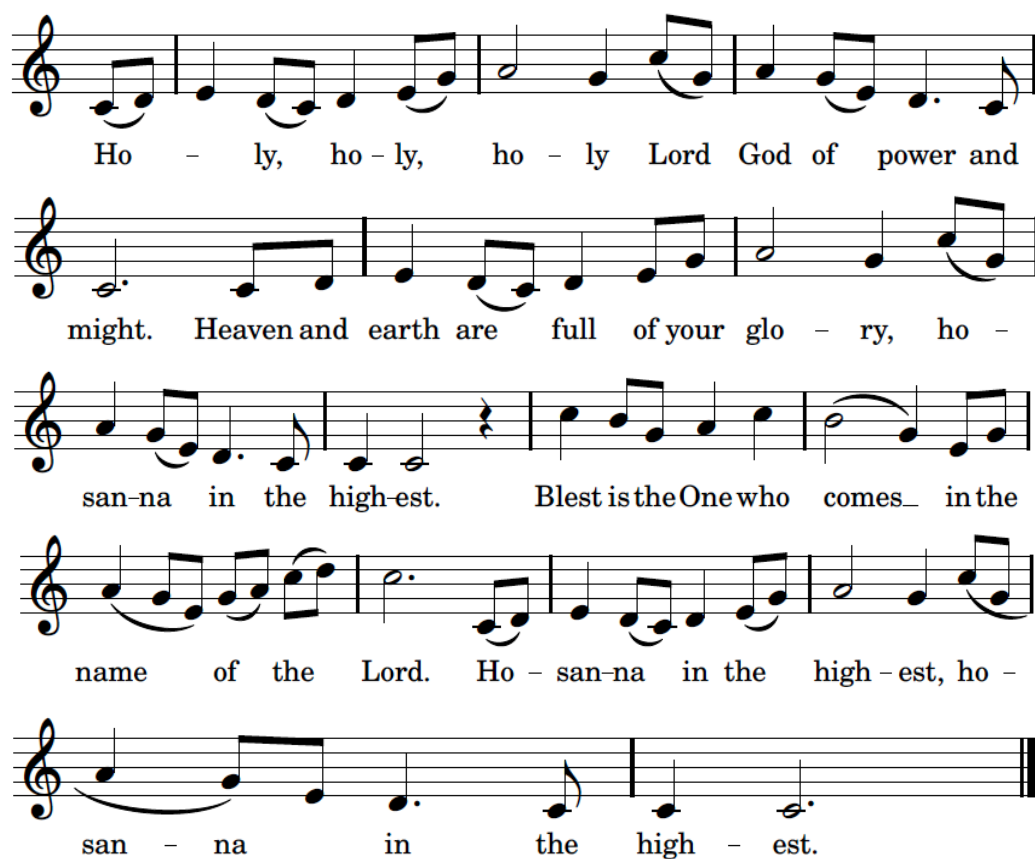
We lift them up to God.

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,
for the glorious resurrection of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter
and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





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

O God most mighty,
 O God most merciful,
 O God our rock and our salvation,
 hear us as we praise your holy Name,
 call us to your table,
 grant us your life.

When the world was a formless void,
you formed order and beauty.
When Abraham and Sarah were barren,
you sent them a child.
When the Israelites were enslaved,
you led them to freedom.
Ruth faced starvation,
David fought Goliath,
the psalmists cried out for healing,
and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.
He was born among those living in poverty,
he lived under oppression,
he wept over the city.
With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

On 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 his death, we cry out Amen.

Amen!

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

Amen!

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

Amen!

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.

O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.

O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.

O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic,

O God most motherly,

O God our strength and our song,

you show us a vision of a tree of life

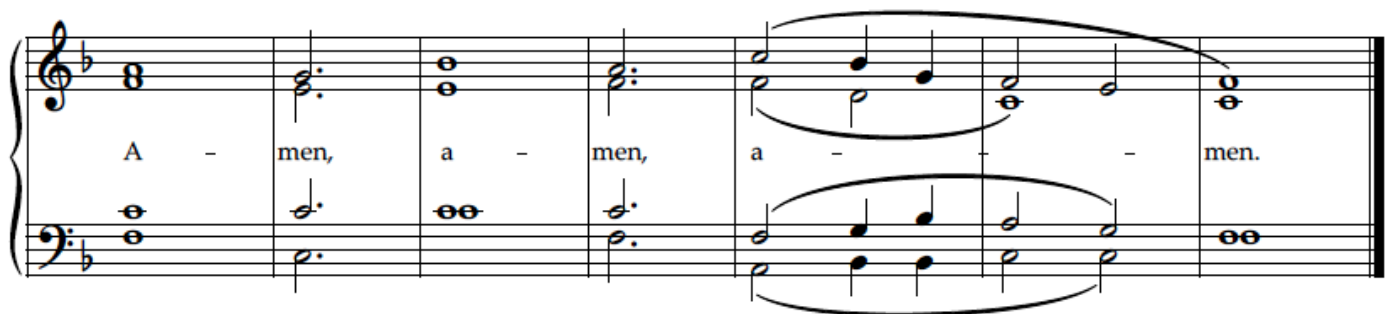
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.

Grant us such life,

the life of the Father to the Son,

the life of the Spirit of our risen Saviour,

life in you, 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 ¹⁰

Lord, we died with you on the cross.
Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.
Now we share in your resurrection.
Live in us, that we may live in you.

Communion ¹¹

Come to the table of grace.
Receive the gift of new life!
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 ¹²:

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.

**Jesus is risen from the grave, Jesus is risen from the grave,
Jesus is risen from the grave, alleluia.**

Jesus was seen by Mary...

Peter will soon be smiling...

Thomas will stop his doubting...

Jesus will meet his people...

Jesus is here in bread and wine...

Jesus will live forever...

Prayer after Communion ¹⁴

Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.
Amen.

Doxology ¹⁵

Generous God,
you have fed us at your heavenly table.
Kindle us with the fire of your Spirit
that when the Lord comes again
we may shine as lights before him,
who is alive and reigns in glory for ever. Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ✠ Saviour, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.
Amen.

**Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son:
endless is the victory over death you won.
Angels robed in splendour rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where the body lay.**

Refrain:

**Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory over death you won.**

**See! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord is living; death hath lost its sting! *Refrain...***

**No more we doubt you, glorious Prince of life;
what is life without you? Aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through your deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to your home above. *Refrain...***

Dismissal

**Alleluia, alleluia! Christ is risen!
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia!**
Go in peace. In Christ you are made new.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, 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. John, Elora;
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop and Acting Primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
and especially the Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Charles & Rose; for Terry & Susan; for David & Susan;

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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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 a mosaic in the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., of the risen Christ showing Thomas his hands and his side. The photo was shared by flickr user MASolari under the CC BY-NC-ND 2.0 license.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/maryannsolari/5119341372/>

¹ Text: Christopher Smart (1722 – 71), alt. Music: Thomas Haweis (1734 – 1820); adapt. Samuel Webbe the younger (1770? – 1843). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

² *Book of Alternative Services*.

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

⁶ 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.

⁷ Text and music: Natalie Sleeth (1930 – 92). © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁸ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁹ *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Preface for Passion Sunday. Canon *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

¹⁰ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

¹¹ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹² Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

¹³ Text and music: John L. Bell (1949 –) and Graham Maule (1958 –). © 1989 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland).

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¹⁴ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹⁵ *An Order for the Holy Eucharist*. The Church in Wales.

¹⁶ Text: Edmond Louis Budry (1854 – 1932); Eng. tr. Richard Birch Hoyle (1875 – 1939), rev. *Hymns for Today's Church*. Rev © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Music: Georg Frederic Hande (1685 – 1759), alt.; *Harmonia Sacra*, 1753. Used under OneLicense A-604280.