



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25th, 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

Jesus Calls Us! O'er the Tumult

**Jesus calls us! O'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea,
day by day his clear voice soundeth, saying, "Christian, follow me!"**

**As of old Saint Andrew heard it by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and toil and kindred, leaving all for his dear sake.**

**Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store;
from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."**

**In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."**

**Jesus calls us! By thy mercies, Saviour, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience, serve and love thee best of all.**

Welcome ²

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

May Christ's grace and peace be with you!

May Christ fill our hearts with joy!

Let us pray.

Holy One,
you breathe the word of love
and the promise of new creation
into the secret places of the soul,
opening heart to heart:
in the wildness of your Spirit,
uncaptured in the wide world,
teach us the costly way of fearless love and priceless peace;
through Jesus Christ,
through whom God dwells with us.
Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading ⁴

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this

city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.

A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul.

When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

Acts 16. 9 – 15

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.**

O God, be merciful to us and bless us,
show us the light of your countenance and come to us.
Let your ways be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.

**Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.**

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.

**Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.**

The earth has brought forth its increase;
may you, O God our God, bless us.
May you bless us,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of you.

**Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.**

A reading from the Revelation of Jesus Christ to John.

And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day – and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

Revelation 21. 10, 21. 22 – 22. 5

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.** ♪

Jesus answered him, ‘Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

‘I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, “I am going away, and I am coming to you.” If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

John 14. 23 – 29

The Gospel of Christ.

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

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

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King of Love, O Christ, We Crown You ⁷

**King of love, O Christ, we crown you
Lord of thought and Lord of will,
each demand of your high challenge
dedicated to fulfil;
we with you by grace co-workers,
till, where human foot has trod,
peoples, kings, dominions, races,
own the empire of our God.**

**King of life, you have created
wheat in golden harvest spread:
make your servants strong to serve you
by the gift of daily bread.
Feed us with your body broken,
with your blood outpoured sustain,
that our souls divinely strengthened
may the life eternal gain.**

King of mercy, you have saved us
from the haunting sense of loss,
nailing in your vast compassion
sin's indictment to the cross.
Those who love, by your sore anguish,
from the past you cleanse and free,
breathing words of absolution
throned and reigning from the tree.

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.

The Great Thanksgiving ⁹

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:



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. Blest 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 five staves of musical notation in treble clef. The notes are simple, mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the notes, aligned with the music. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff ends with a double bar line. The third staff ends with a double bar line. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line. The fifth staff ends with a double bar line.

**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.

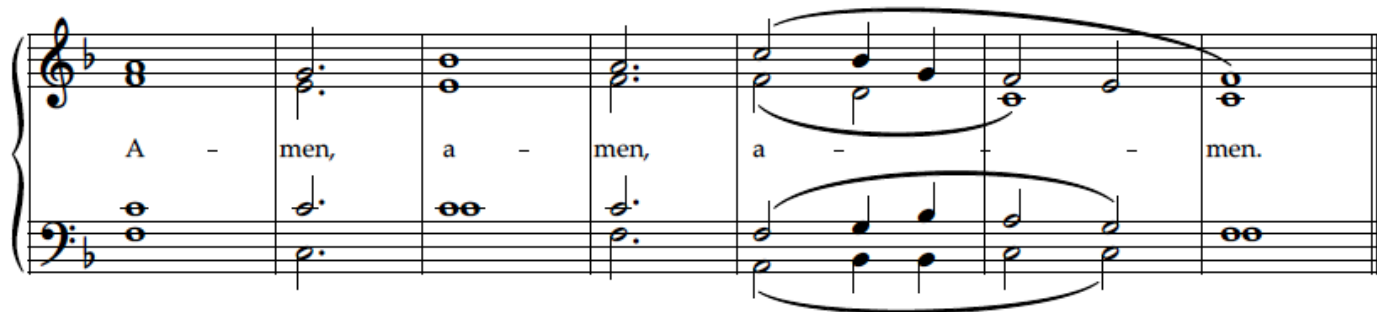
Grant us such life,

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!

*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:*

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.

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first begotten from the dead,
thou alone, our strong defender,
liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluia, Jesus, true and living bread!

Here our humblest homage pay we,
here in loving reverence bow;
here for faith's discernment pray we,
lest we fail to know thee now.
Alleluia, thou art here, we ask not how.

Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
as of old in Bethlehem,
here as there thine angels hail thee,
branch and flower of Jesse's stem.
Alleluia, we in worship join with them.

Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished
once for all when thou wast slain,
in its fullness undiminished
shall forevermore remain,
alleluia, cleansing us from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly Manna,
stricken Rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship thee, the Lamb who died,
alleluia, risen, ascended, glorified!

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.

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken ¹⁶

**Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken formed thee for his own abode.
On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou mayest smile at all thy foes.**

**See! The streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint, when such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.**

**Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering – showing that the Lord is near.
Thus they march, the pillar leading, light by night, and shade by day;
daily on the manna feeding which God gives them when they pray.**

**Saviour, if of Zion's city I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity, I will glory in thy name.
Fading is the world's best pleasure, all its boasted pomp or show:
solid joys and lasting treasures none but Zion's children know.**

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Alleluia! Go in peace. In Christ you are made new.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Postlude

Your attention, please...

An Afternoon with Anthony

**this coming Saturday! May 31st
from 1 – 5 pm**

Enjoy Elvis favourites and other much-loved songs of the 50s, 60s, and 70s. Tickets are \$30 and are available from the office; admission includes two (2) slices of pizza. Refreshments and nibbles will be available for purchase.



Picnic

10 am on June 22nd

Weather permitting, we'll celebrate the eucharist outside on the morning of June 22nd, followed by a parish picnic! Bring a lawn chair, a hat, and some sunscreen. Summer's coming!

Summer Sundays – One Service

From Sunday, June 29 through August 31st, we will have only one service **at 9 am.**

(We'll go back to two services at 8:30 am and 10:00 am on September 7th)

While this was once our common practice, we haven't done it for over a decade. We're trying this to make things easier for summer coverage and a number of other reasons. We will be asking for everyone's feedback in September about their experience.

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. George, Guelph;
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop and Acting Primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
and especially the Anglican Church of Kenya;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Janet; for Thomas & Doreen; for Joanne;

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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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 this morning is a photograph of a sculpture by the late Dundas artist Wayne Allen. Entitled “The Coming of the Holy Spirit,” Wayne sculpted this piece as a gift for the ACPO conference, where it is used as a reminder of the abiding presence of the Spirit. The statue is at the conference this weekend, but will be back in the Chapel of the Holy Family as an aid to prayer after Pentecost (June 8th).

¹ Text: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818 – 95). Music: John Bacchus Dykes (1823 – 76) 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.

⁴ New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicized Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. <http://nrsvbibles.org>

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: Charles Venn Pilcher (1879 – 1961), alt. 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: George Hugh Bourne (1840 – 1925). Music: Healey Willan (1880 – 1968). © 1994 Waterloo Music. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹⁴ *Sundays and Seasons*.

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

¹⁶ Text: John Newton (1725 – 1807), alt. Music: Franz Josef Haydn (1732 – 1809). Used under OneLicense A-604280.