



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 24th, 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.

We try to minimize individuals' appearances on camera for the stream.

Prelude

Music is offered to provide a time for quiet prayer and preparation.

Territorial Acknowledgment

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken ¹

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.

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.

The Collect of the Day ³

Let us pray.

God of the sabbath,
this is the day and this is the hour
when women long oppressed stand with dignity,
and when your healing escapes our desire for control:
may your joy stretch the fabric of our hearts
and inspire us to loosen each other's bonds;
through Jesus Christ,
the shamer of the powerful and the raiser of the dead.

Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading ⁴

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying,

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak,
for I am only a boy.” But the Lord said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a boy,’
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you.
Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
says the Lord.”

Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the
Lord said to me,

“Now I have put my words in your mouth.
See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant.”

Jeremiah 1. 4 – 10

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be ashamed.

**In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free;
incline your ear to me and save me.**

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe;
you are my crag and my stronghold.

**Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.**

For you are my hope, O Lord God,
my confidence since I was young.

**I have been sustained by you ever since I was born;
from my mother's womb you have been my strength;
my praise shall be always of you.**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.”) Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.”) But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.” This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Hebrews 12. 18 – 29

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.** ♪

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight.

When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God.

But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which

work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.”

But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?”

When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

Luke 13. 10 – 17

The Gospel of Christ.

♪ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. ♪

Homily

Let us affirm the faith we share.

**We trust in God, who has created and is creating;
who came to us in Jesus, the word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new;
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.**

**We believe we are called to be God's people:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus' death and resurrection
by word and deed.**

**We live in hope because in life, in death,
in life beyond death, we are not alone:
God is with us. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

✠ Gracious God,
✠ graciously hear us.

Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy,
welcoming sinners and inviting us to this table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbours and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you,
✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
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.

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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*Lo, God Is Here! Let Us Adore*¹⁰

**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;
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 ¹¹

Creator God,
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labour,
that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour.
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving ¹²

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.

God of Sinai and Zion, you have met us on a mountain
of blazing fire and gloom and tempest,
and in Moses you made a covenant with your chosen people.

When we were faithless, you remained faithful.

Yet in Jesus you renew that covenant not in anger but in gentleness,
not in grief but in joy, not in terror but in trust.

And so you lead us in thanksgiving to Mount Zion,
to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,
to the assembly of the firstborn enrolled in your company,
and to angels and archangels in festal gathering,
singing the hymn of your unending praise.



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est,

ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bles-sed 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.

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.

God beyond our imaginings,
in Jesus you make yourself a being who may be touched,
and in this sacrament of bread and wine
you allow us to touch your heart.

In your Son's death he was nailed to a cross,
and in his resurrection the disciples touched his hands and side.

Come close to us in the power of your Spirit
and make us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send down that same Spirit, that these gifts of bread and wine
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."

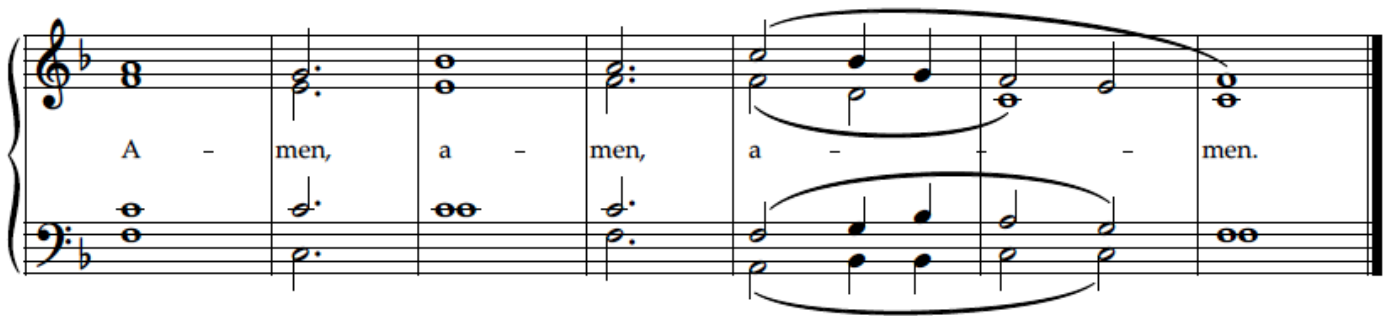
Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

God our saviour,
in Jesus you healed the woman crippled for many years,
and likewise in Jesus
you transform your world so long oppressed by sin.
As you make yourself present in the power of your Spirit
in this bread and wine,
alert us to your presence and transforming love
wherever we see ourselves or others struggling with
sin or suffering or sadness or oppression.
Touch us in our places of despair,
touch all your people in their woundedness and grief,
and touch your whole creation
as it groans in eager longing for your coming again,
that we may come face to face with you,
and you may know us in the likeness of your Son,
ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



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 ¹³

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**We, being many, are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

Communion ¹⁴

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.
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.

You Who Dwell In the Shelter of the Lord ¹⁶

**You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in his shadow for life,
say to the Lord, “My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!”**

Refrain

**And he will raise you up on eagles’ wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

**Snares of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear:
under his wings your refuge, his faithfulness your shield.**

**You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come.**

**For to his angels he’s given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

Prayer after Communion ¹⁷

Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbours as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Doxology ¹⁸

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 love of Jesus calls us our joyous praise to sing;
our deeply felt thanksgivings we now together bring,
for all God's many blessings, unasked yet still received,
and for the generations who faithfully believed.

The love of Jesus calls us, that we may always be
companions on a journey, where all the world may see
that serving Christ is freedom which time does not destroy;
where Christ's command is duty, and every duty joy.

The love of Jesus calls us to go where he would go,
to challenge all that limits, to change, to learn, to grow,
to know that Christ has freed us, that prisons are no more;
for those who seek his kingdom, Christ opens every door.

The love of Jesus calls us in swiftly changing days,
to be God's co-creators in new and wondrous ways;
that God with men and women may so transform the earth,
that love and peace and justice may give God's kingdom birth.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
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 community of St. John, Port Dalhousie;
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop,
and for Shane, our Primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
and especially the Church of the Province of South East Asia;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Karen; for Jackie; for Wendy & Norm;
--

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**



Back to School Supplies!

For many families, the extra costs of students heading back to school in the fall are overwhelming!

Through September, let's gather supplies that can make a difference for students at local schools.

Some Suggested Items

Pencil Crayons	Kleenex
Glue Sticks	Page Dividers for Binders
Safety Scissors	Coloured Duo Tangs
cloth Pencil Case	Lined 3-hole paper
HB Pencils	Calculators (preferably solar-powered)
Erasers	Rulers (with cm & mm)
Pencil Sharpeners (with receptacle)	



The Church of the Nativity

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1831 King St. East
Hamilton, ON L8K 1V8



(905) 549-4335



admin@worshipwithnativity.org

The Right Reverend Susan Bell

Bishop of Niagara

The Reverend Canon Matthew Griffin

Rector

The Reverend Canon David Linn

Honorary Assistant

The Reverend Deacon Larry Collinson

Parish Deacon

Mr. Peter Harding

Director of Music

Mrs. Laura Brintnell

Parish Administrator

Mrs. Jan Collinson

Mr. David Eccles

Ms. Gayle MacDonald

Mr. Derek Smith

Wardens

Sources

¹ Text: John Newton (1725 – 1807), alt. Music: Franz Josef Haydn (1732 – 1809). 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 Updated Edition. © 2021 National Council of 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.

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⁷ Gospel Acclamation: *Heleluyan*. Text and music as sung by the Muscogee Creek Nation. Transcr. Kenneth Hull, 2020. ©. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

For biblical copyright information, see endnote 4.

⁸ *Celebrate God's Presence*. United Church of Canada, 2000.

⁹ Introduction & Absolution: *BAS*, alt. Confession: *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹⁰ Text: Gerhard Tersteegen (1697 – 1769); tr. John Wesley (1703 – 91). Music: Henri F. Hemy (1818 – 88); adapt. James G. Walton (1821 – 1905). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹¹ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹² *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

¹³ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

¹⁴ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹⁵ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in "A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion," Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

¹⁶ Text and music: Psalm 91; para. Michael Joncas (1951 –), alt. © 1979, 1991 New Dawn Music. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹⁷ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹⁸ *An Order for the Holy Eucharist*. The Church in Wales.

¹⁹ Text: Herbert O'Driscoll (1928 – 2024). Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810 – 76). Used under OneLicense A-604280.