



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 21st, 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

Come, Let Us to the Lord Our God ¹

**Come, let us to the Lord our God with contrite hearts return;
our God is gracious, nor will leave the desolate to mourn.**

**His voice commands the tempest forth and stills the stormy wave;
and though his arm be strong to smite, 'tis also strong to save.**

**Long hath the night of sorrow reigned; the dawn shall bring us light.
God shall appear, and we shall rise with gladness in his sight.**

**Our hearts, if God we seek to know, shall know him and rejoice;
his coming like the morn shall be, like morning songs his voice.**

**As dew upon the tender herb, diffusing fragrance round,
as showers that usher in the spring and cheer the thirsty ground,
so shall his presence bless our souls and shed a joyful light.
That hallowed morn shall chase away the sorrows of the night.**

Welcome ²

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.

Let us pray.

God of the dirtied hands, the wandering feet:
you seek out the lost before they ever turn to you.
Take us with you into the abandoned places
to find a new community outside our fortress walls;
through Jesus Christ, the Searching One.
Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading ⁴

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

My joy is gone; grief is upon me;
my heart is sick.
Listen! The cry of the daughter of my people
from far and wide in the land:
“Is the LORD not in Zion?
Is her King not in her?”
 (“Why have they provoked me to anger with their images,
with their foreign idols?”)
“The harvest is past, the summer is ended,
and we are not saved.”
For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken,
I mourn, and horror has seized me.
Is there no balm in Gilead?

Is there no physician there?
Why then has the health of the daughter of my people
not been restored?
O that my head were a spring of water
and my eyes a fountain of tears,
so that I might weep day and night
for the slain of the daughter of my people!

Jeremiah 8. 18 – 9. 1

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

Psalm 79. 1 – 9

Deus, venerunt ⁵

O God, the heathen have come into your inheritance;
they have profaned your holy temple;
they have made Jerusalem a heap of rubble.
**They have given the bodies of your servants as food for the birds of the
air, and the flesh of your faithful ones to the beasts of the field.**

They have shed their blood like water on every side of Jerusalem, and
there was no one to bury them.
**We have become a reproach to our neighbours,
an object of scorn and derision to those around us.**

How long will you be angry, O Lord?
Will your fury blaze like fire for ever?
**Pour out your wrath upon the heathen who have not known you and
upon the dominions that have not called upon your name.**

For they have devoured Jacob and made his dwelling a ruin.

**Remember not our past sins; let your compassion be swift to meet us;
for we have been brought very low.**

Help us, O God our Saviour, for the glory of your name;
deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your name's sake.

2nd Reading ⁶

A reading of the first letter to Timothy.

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,

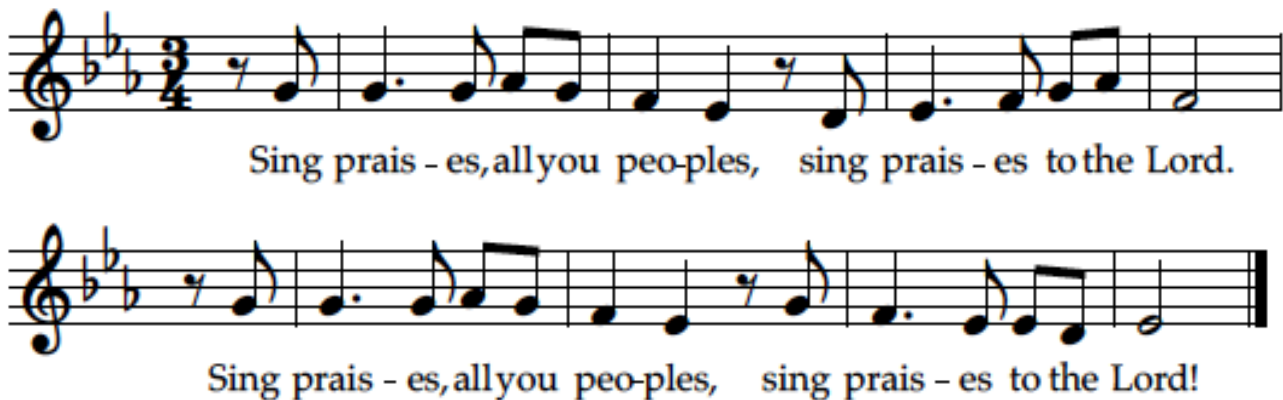
who gave himself a ransom for all

—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

1 Timothy 2. 1 – 7

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. ♪

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’

So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.'

Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.'

And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Luke 16. 1 – 13

The Gospel of Christ.

♪ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. ♪

Homily

Let us affirm our faith together.

We believe and trust in God.

**We believe and trust in God,
the Source of all being and life,
in whom and for whom we exist.**

**We believe and trust in God,
the Word of God incarnate,
who took our human nature,
who died for us and was raised
so that we might be children of God.**

**We believe and trust in God,
the Advocate and Guide,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in all the world.
This is the God in whom we believe and trust.**

The Prayers of the People

✠ God of grace,
✠ receive our prayer.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us
as ones who were lost and have been found.
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 Song

Christ, Be Our Light ¹⁰

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.**

Refrain: **Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church, gathered today.**

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain...***

**Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
Shared until all are fed. *Refrain...***

**Longing for shelter, many are homeless,
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering other,
walls made of living stone. *Refrain...***

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come. *Refrain...*

Refrain: Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church, gathered today.

Prayer over the Gifts ¹¹

Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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 wonder and love, we thank and praise you
because we and all creation were your debtors;
your Son Jesus Christ forgave our debts
at the price of his own blood
and showed us what your grace could do.
When your people cried out for healing balm,
you restored their soul,
sending your only Son to be the steward
who turned justice into mercy
and in spite of our failure
made us welcome in your eternal home
as your companions forever.
He transforms us from resentful antagonists
and anxious sinners into joyful friends,
and in his glorious resurrection opens the way to life with you.
And so with angels and archangels and the company of heaven,
we join the everlasting song of praise.



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.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for "Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord, God of power and might," with a final note tied to the second staff. The second staff continues the melody for "heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry." The third staff continues the melody for "Ho - san - na in the high - est." The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.



Blessed 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 our saviour, you desire everyone to be saved
and to come to the knowledge of the truth;
and in Christ Jesus you have given us
the one mediator between yourself and humankind.
Receive the supplications and thanksgivings of your church,
that by the power of your Spirit your people may be made holy
in the likeness of your Son.
By that same Holy Spirit, bless these gifts of bread and wine,
that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord 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 of compassion, bring hope to any whose joy is gone,

who find grief is upon them, whose heart is sick.

Come near to all who find you far away, who have waited long,

whose sadness is deep, who have been taken hold of by dismay,

whose eyes are a fountain of tears.

Be their balm in Gilead. Be the physician of their soul and body.

Restore the well-being of your people.

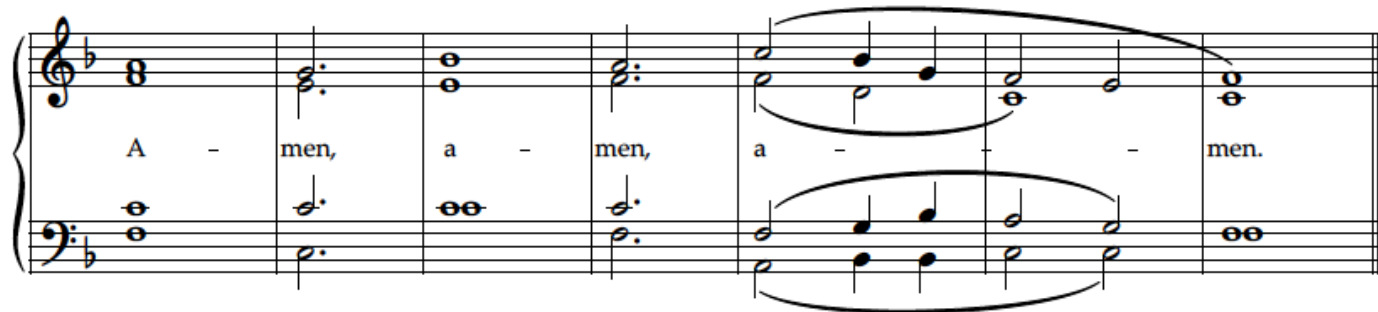
Give them faith, lend them patience, fill them with courage,

and heal every sin-sick soul.

Bring your whole creation to the day

when your saints enjoy the glory of your reign,

and you are all in all, 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

Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat,
whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread.
**So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth
into your reign of justice and peace.**

Communion ¹⁴

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.
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.

Let there be light,
let there be understanding,
let all the nations gather,
let them be face to face;

open our lips,
open our minds to ponder,
open the door of concord
opening into grace;

perish the sword,
perish the angry judgment,
perish the bombs and hunger,
perish the fight for gain;

hallow our love,
hallow the deaths of martyrs,
hallow their holy freedom,
hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come,
thy spirit turn to language,
thy people speak together,
thy spirit never fade;

let there be light,
open our hearts to wonder,
perish the way of terror,
hallow the world God made.

Prayer after Communion ¹⁷

O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.
We ask this 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

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name ¹⁹

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem
and crown him, crown him, crown him, crown him Lord of all.

Hail him, the heir of David's line, whom David Lord did call,
the God incarnate, life divine,
and crown him, crown him, crown him, crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, you martyrs of your God, who from his altar call;
praise him whose way of pain you trod,
and crown him, crown him, crown him, crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall,
go, spread your trophies at his feet,
and crown him, crown him, crown him, crown him Lord of all.

Let every tongue and every tribe, delivered from the fall,
to Christ all majesty ascribe,
and crown him, crown him, crown him, crown him Lord of all.

O that, with heaven's sacred throng, we at his feet may fall,
lift high the universal song,
and crown him, crown him, crown him, crown him Lord of all.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
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 Transfiguration, in Saint Catharines;
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop,
and for Shane, our Primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
and especially the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Frank; for Leanne, Marc, Xavier, Shayleigh, Kyra, Abbygayle,
Alyxandra, and Brooklyn; for Sharon;

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

worshipwithnativity.org



facebook.com/Nativityniagara/



@NativityHamilton



youtube.com/@nativityniagara



1831 King St. East
Hamilton, ON L8K 1V8



(905) 549-4335



admin@worshipwithnativity.org

The Right Reverend Susan Bell
The Reverend Canon Matthew Griffin
The Reverend Canon David Linn
The Reverend Deacon Larry Collinson
Mr. Peter Harding
Mrs. Laura Brintnell

Bishop of Niagara
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 is a photograph entitled (מסממי הקטורת), (עברית: צרי) (English: Balm of Gilead) from A Medical Diagnosis Exhibition, Tower of David Entrance, The Old City of Jerusalem, Israel. It was shared with Wikimedia by user Deror Avi under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported Deed.

¹ Text: Hosea 6.1 – 4, para. John Morison (1749 – 98). Music: Melody *Tochter Sion*, Köln, 1741. 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.

⁶ 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>

⁷ Gospel Acclamation: Laudate Omnes Gentes. Text: Ps 117.1. Eng. para. Taizé Community (France). Music Jacques Berthier (1923 – 94). Eng. para and music © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé. ©. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

For biblical copyright information, see endnote 4.

⁸ *Common Worship*, 2000. The Church of England. Creeds and Authorized Expressions of Faith. E1, alt.

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

¹⁰ © 1993, 2000, Bernadette Farrell. 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: Frances Wheeler Davis (1936 –). Music: Robert J.B. Fleming (1921 – 76). © 1976 Margaret Fleming. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹⁷ *Sundays and Seasons*.

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

¹⁹ Text: Edward Perronet (1726 – 92). Music: Oliver Holden (1765 – 1844). Used under OneLicense A-604280.