



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 5th, 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

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness ¹

**Praise the one who breaks the darkness
with a liberating light.**

**Praise the one who frees the prisoners,
turning blindness into sight.**

**Praise the one who preached the gospel,
healing every dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands
with the very bread of peace.**

**Praise the one who blessed the children
with a strong yet gentle word.**

**Praise the one who drove out demons
with a piercing two-edged sword.**

**Praise the one who brings cool water
to the desert's burning sand.**

**From this well comes living water,
quenching thirst in every land.**

**Praise the one true love incarnate:
Christ who suffered in our place.**

**Jesus died and rose for many
that we may know God by grace.**

**Let us sing for joy and gladness,
seeing what our God has done.**

**Praise the one redeeming glory,
praise the One who makes us one.**

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.

Lord of the growing seed,
you reach to the roots of our being and quench our sea-deep thirst:
help us to know ourselves through the eyes of the other
who calls us to answer and serve and, in the end, be filled;
through Jesus Christ, the Master of the Table.

Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading ⁴

A reading from the book of Lamentations.

How lonely sits the city
that once was full of people!
How like a widow she has become,
she that was great among the nations!

She that was a princess among the provinces
has become a vassal.

She weeps bitterly in the night,
with tears on her cheeks;
among all her lovers
she has no one to comfort her;
all her friends have dealt treacherously with her,
they have become her enemies.

Judah has gone into exile with suffering
and hard servitude;
she lives now among the nations,
and finds no resting-place;
her pursuers have all overtaken her
in the midst of her distress.

The roads to Zion mourn,
for no one comes to the festivals;
all her gates are desolate,
her priests groan;
her young girls grieve,
and her lot is bitter.

Her foes have become the masters,
her enemies prosper,
because the LORD has made her suffer
for the multitude of her transgressions;
her children have gone away,
captives before the foe.

From daughter Zion has departed
all her majesty.
Her princes have become like stags

that find no pasture;
they fled without strength
before the pursuer.

Lamentations 1. 1 – 6

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

Canticle

A Song of God's Mercy ⁵
Lamentations 3. 19 – 26

The thought of my affliction and my homelessness
is wormwood and gall!
**My soul continually thinks of it
and is bowed down within me.**

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:
**The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,
God's mercies never come to an end;**

they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
**"The LORD is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in him."**

The Lord is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.
**It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.**

A reading from the second letter to Timothy.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you.

For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able

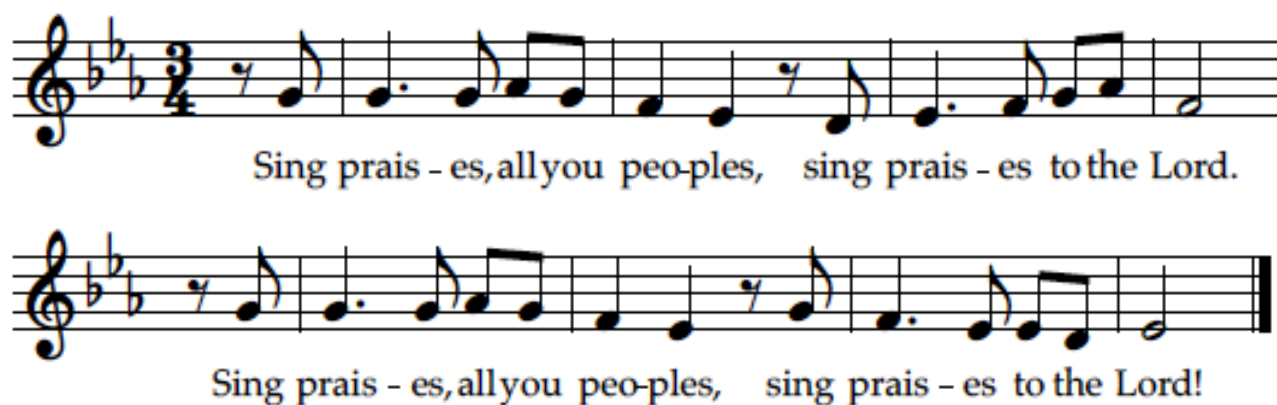
to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

2nd Timothy 1. 1 – 14

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel ⁷



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.** ♪

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”

The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

“Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

Luke 17. 5 – 10

The Gospel of Christ.

♪ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. ♪

Homily

Let us affirm the faith we share.

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 those living in poverty.
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

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace ¹⁰

**Make me a channel of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your healing power,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.**

**Make me a channel of your peace:
where there's despair in life, let me bring your hope;
where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.**

**O Spirit, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood, as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.**

**Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.**

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.
It is our duty and our joy to thank you,
Lord God, our hope and our foundation,
because you made this sunrise of wonder
and you established the heavens in bright array.
With great joy, you called a people and set them free.
Finally, in your Son Jesus you came among your people
and let loose the power of your Spirit.
In Jesus' death and resurrection
you transformed our meanness and cruelty
into your unfailing joy and grace.

And so we praise you with angels and archangels
and all the company of heaven,
singing the hymn of your unending 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.
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.

Exhilarating God,
in Jesus you have given us the architect of our salvation,
and in this meal you show us your willingness
to be broken and poured out to win us back to you.

Send down your Holy Spirit,
that your people may be sanctified by your grace,
and these gifts of bread and wine 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.”

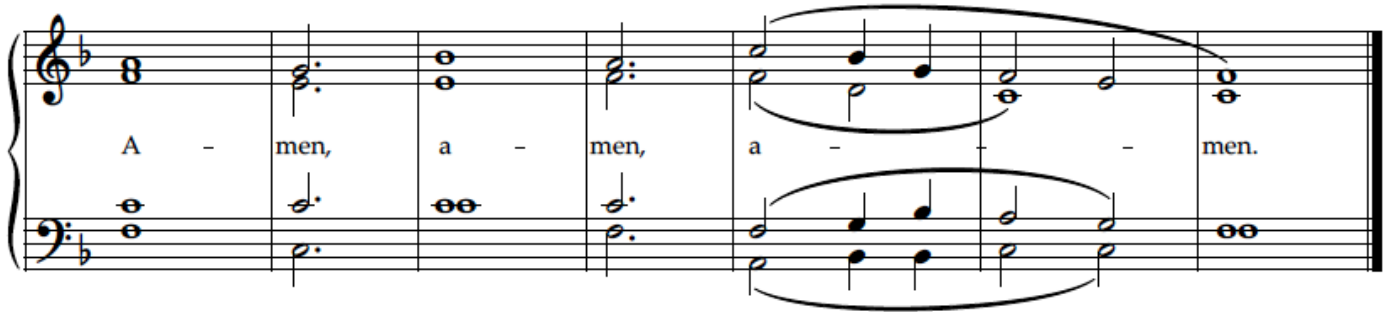
Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Generous God, as you fill us with the bread of life,
renew our hope that not only we but all your people
may never be hungry again.
Make us heralds and apostles and teachers,
that we may know your power to save,
be called to spread your grace and mercy,
and build one another up in the ways of righteousness and peace;
that our tradition may be renewed in trust,
deepened in suffering, and resolute amid shame,
until we see you face to face,
and your justice shines throughout the earth,
and all people rise to enjoy your glory,
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

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.

When All Thy Mercies, O My God ¹⁶

When all thy mercies, O my God,
my rising soul surveys,
transported with the view, I'm lost
in wonder, love, and praise.

Unnumbered comforts to my soul
thy tender care bestowed,
before my infant heart conceived
from whom those comforts flowed.

Ten thousand thousand precious gifts
my daily thanks employ;
nor is the least a cheerful heart
that tastes those gifts with joy.

Through every period of my life
thy goodness I'll pursue;
and after death, in distant worlds
the glorious theme renew.

Through all eternity to thee
a joyful song I'll raise;
for O, eternity's too short
to utter all thy praise!

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

Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,
my daily labour to pursue;
thee, only thee, resolved to know
in all I think or speak or do.

The task thy wisdom hath assigned
O let me cheerfully fulfil,
in all my works thy presence find,
and prove thy good and perfect will.

Thee may I set at my right hand,
whose eyes mine inmost substance see,
and labour on at thy command,
and offer all my works to thee.

Give me to bear thy easy yoke,
and every moment watch and pray,
and still to things eternal look,
and hasten to thy glorious day;

for thee delightfully employ
whate'er thy bounteous grace hath given;
and run my course with even joy,
and closely walk with thee to heaven.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

*The flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God,
with thanksgiving by David Eccles and Tim Stephens
remembering their seventh wedding anniversary.*

Your Attention, please:

The Nativity Marketplace is Nov. 8th!

We still need vendors!

Do you know someone interested
in selling their creations?

Get them to talk to Laura about reserving a table!



... and it's time to start baking/preserving!

We're looking forward to having great quantities of fabulous baking to draw people in. Drop some off any time; we can keep it in our freezer until the day!

Community Lunch: October 17th at noon

Save the Date

Monday, November 17th



High Tea

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 the Evangelist, in Winnona;
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop,
and for Shane, our Primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
and especially the Anglican Church of Tanzania;

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Elsa; for Mary; for Diane;

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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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 of a mustard seed, taken by the rector.

The image used for the High Tea Save the Date is from Andrea Piacquado, who shared it on pexels.com with permission for its use.

¹ Text: Rusty Edwards (1955 –), © Hope Publishing. Music: *A Repository of Sacred Music: Part Second*, Harrisburg, 1813. 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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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 for the gospel reading, 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 Text erroneously attrib. St. Francis of Assisi (1181 – 1226); adapt. Sebastian Temple (1928 – 97). Music: Sebastian Temple (1928 – 97). 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: Joseph Addison (1672 – 1719). Music: ST. STEPHEN, William Jones (1726 – 1800). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹⁷ *Sundays and Seasons*.

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

¹⁹ Text: Charles Wesley (1707 – 1788). Music: Orlando Gibbons (1583 – 1625). Used under OneLicense A-604280.