



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

January 25th, 2026



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

Opening Hymn

432

*Jesus Calls Us! O'er the Tumult*¹

**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

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.

Opening Acclamation

Perfect Light of revelation,
as you shone in the life of Jesus,
so shine in us and through us,
that we may become beacons of truth and compassion,
enlightening all creation with deeds of justice and mercy.

The Collect of the Day ³

Let us pray.

God of all people, you sent your Son into our shadowed world.
May his dawning light give hope
to the broken, the persecuted, the alien and the excluded,
so that we might feel the kingdom drawing near
and turn to follow him;
through Jesus Christ, the morning star.
Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading ⁴

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of

Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea,
the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Isaiah 9. 1 – 4

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

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?

**The Lord is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?**

One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
**beholding the fair beauty of the Lord
and seeking God in the temple.**

For in the day of trouble, O God,
you shall keep me safe in your shelter;
**you shall hide me in the secrecy of your dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.**

Even now you lift up my head
above my enemies round about me.
**Therefore I will offer in your dwelling
an oblation with sounds of great gladness;
I will sing and make music to the Lord.**

Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.
**You speak in my heart and say , “Seek my face.”
Your face, Lord, will I seek.**

Hide not your face from me,
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
**You have been my helper; cast me not away;
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.**

A reading from Paul's letter to the followers of Jesus in Corinth.

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul', or 'I belong to Apollos', or 'I belong to Cephas', or 'I belong to Christ.' Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.)

For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

1 Corinthians 1. 10 – 18

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 Matthew.

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

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

‘Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.’

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.’ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of

Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Matthew 4. 12 – 23

The Gospel of Christ.

♪ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. ♪

Homily

The Prayers of the People

✠ Merciful God,
✠ **receive our prayer.**

Confession and Absolution ⁸

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

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. 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 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

430

Will You Come and Follow Me ⁹

**Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?**

**Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?**

**Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?**

**Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?**

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Prayer over the Gifts ¹⁰

God of majesty,
no eye has seen, no ear has heard
what you have prepared for those who love you,
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.
Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving ¹¹

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.

Worthy of praise and thanksgiving are you, Lord God,
for you summoned all things into being,
and from the beginning you beckoned your creation
to fullness of life with you.

Through covenant you claimed a people to share your life;
in slavery you called them to freedom;
in exile you summoned them to faithfulness;
in their sin you beckoned them toward your light.

From the first day until now

you have called creation to share your goodness.

In Christ you came seeking our salvation with your very life,
bidding us to come and follow.

Our rejection of him led to the horror of the cross,
but you have drawn us to yourself forever
through the glory of his resurrection.

And so with your people on earth and with the company of heaven,
we join the 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.
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. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Sustaining God, in you many become one.

You gathered fishermen from their nets to become apostles;
just so you take grain from the fields and grapes from the vine
to make this holy meal.

And now you gather us around this table
to remember the story of our redemption.

Make us one body.

Sustain us by the grace of the one bread we share
and one cup of blessing which we bless.

Send your Spirit upon this bread and wine that it may be for us
the body and blood of 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, in Christ you threw wide the net of your grace,
calling disciples one by one to be your followers;

not in their own righteousness,

but because you would have us be your companions

and share your glory for ever.

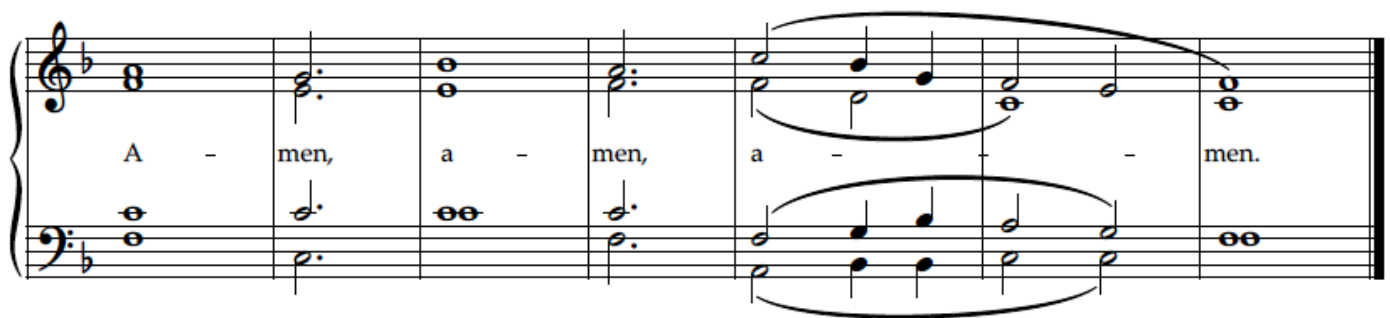
Reveal in your church the wideness of your mercy.

Bless those today who wonder if they have strayed too far
to be found by you or to belong among your people.

Inspire all who struggle to know their purpose in your kingdom
and long to hear your voice.

Beckon your disciples to come and follow, to work alongside you,
casting the net of grace, until all are gathered in and one in you,
ever-seeking and ever-saving God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.



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 ¹²

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 ¹³

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Come to the table; taste and see.

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.

Take My Life, and Let It Be ¹⁵

Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet, and let them be
swift and purposeful for thee.

Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee;
take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love: my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Prayers after Communion ¹⁶

Radiant God,
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In the sacrament of his body and blood
you have drawn us to your heart.
Send us from this table with delight,
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.
Amen.

Doxology ¹⁷

Glory to God,
whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun ¹⁸

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
doth its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where e'er he reigns:
the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
peculiar honours to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Announcements

Nativity Ladies

January 27th

The Ladies are meeting at 2pm in the Halliday Room for tea, cookies, and conversation this Tuesday!

Sock It To Me Sunday

February 1st

Let's help some feet get warm—bring in new socks next Sunday! Can the rector catch the socks you fling at him? Find out in just two weeks!

SOUPer Bowl Sunday

February 8th



The Superbowl needs parties. And frankly, it's not the Grey Cup, so we should help it be more super! And there has to be something better than just cheering for the Broncos* over the Seahawks... what if we made it a SOUP-er Bowl?

Join the 'competition'! On February 8th, we'll all bring in soup—and see which side of the church (north toward parking lot, south toward King St) can 'win' by feeding the most people!

* The choice of the Broncos is solely due to Matthew owning a Broncos' jersey. The Rams/Seahawks choice was decided by coin flip. As long as it's not the Patriots...

Vestry – Annual Meeting Farewell Celebration

**February 22nd
February 22nd**

Please pick up your letter if you're attending in person!

On February 22nd, we will have only one service at 9:30. Following the service, we'll conduct our annual meeting of Vestry. Then we will have a farewell celebration and reception for Matthew, including lunch. (This is Matthew's final Sunday at the Nativity as our rector).

Tickets are \$25 per person (children under 12 are free). They are available from the office or one of the wardens and must be purchased *BEFORE* February 17th.

You'll find more details in the letter!

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. Luke in Burlington.
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop,
and for Shane, our Primate.
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
and especially the Iglesia Anglicana de Chile.

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Shirley; for Sandy, Jason, Quinn, & Carlyn; for Peter & Cathy;

For the needs of the world:

For peace:

For the people of Venezuela, Ukraine, Gaza, and all places ravaged by conflict.

For those we know in need of healing:

For those who have died, and those who mourn:

For the repose of the soul of Audrey Laxton.

**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
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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 is the painting “St. Peter and St. Andrew” by Peter Koenig. The artist has granted permission for the non-commercial use of this image with attribution, and we’re grateful to be able to use it!

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 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: Gloria, Gloria in Excelsis Deo. Text: Luke 2.14a; 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 *Book of Alternative Services*

⁹ Text: John L. Bell (1949 –). Music: Melody Scottish trad.; arr. John L. Bell (1949 –). © 1987 WGRG Resource Group. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹⁰ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹¹ *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

¹² *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

¹³ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹⁴ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

¹⁵ Text: Frances Ridgley Havergal (1836 – 79). Music: composer unknown. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹⁶ *The Book of Alternative Services*.

¹⁷ *The Book of Alternative Services*.

¹⁸ Text: Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748), alt. Music: John Hatton (? – 1793). Used under OneLicense A-604280.