



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton
Holy Eucharist

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 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

Silent Procession

Confession

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonour you:

Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign,
and for hindering the work of the Spirit:

Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,
and for disdaining the living water Christ offers:

Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin,
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, † pardon and deliver you from all
your sin, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in
eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Let us pray.

Holy God, whose wild Spirit's breath defies our frozen idols: take the night time of our fear and make it a welcoming womb for us and all the world; through Jesus Christ, in whom we are born anew.

Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading

A reading from the book of Genesis.

God's call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose—that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey, they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

Genesis 12:1-4a

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?
**My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

The Lord will not let your foot be moved
and the One who watches over you will not fall asleep.
**Behold, the One who keeps watch over Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.**

The Lord, the Lord, watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your side,
**so that the sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil
and shall keep you safe.
**The Lord shall watch over your going out
and your coming in,
from this time forth for evermore.**

2nd Reading

A reading from the letter to the followers of Jesus in Rome.

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture

say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.'

Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations') in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Romans 4. 1--5, 13--17

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel



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.** ♪

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you

about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Matthew 4. 1 – 11

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine,
Jesus did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.

**Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself and was obedient to death,**

even the death of the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

✠ Hear us, O God.
✠ Your mercy is great.

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

Walls that Divide

**Though ancient walls may still stand proud
and racial strife be fact,
though boundaries may be lines of hate,
proclaim God's saving act!**

Refrain:

**Walls that divide are broken down;
Christ is our unity!
Chains that enslave are thrown aside;
Christ is our liberty!**

**When vested power stands firm entrenched
and breaks another's back,
when waste and want live side by side,
it's gospel that we lack.**

**The truth we seek in varied scheme,
the life that we pursue,
unites us in a common quest
of self and world made new.**

**The church divided seeks that grace,
that newness we proclaim,
a unity of serving love
that lives praise to God's name.**

**This broken world seeks lasting health
and vital unity.
God's people, by God's Word renewed,
cast off all slavery.**

Offering Prayer

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We

ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

May God be with you.

And also with you.

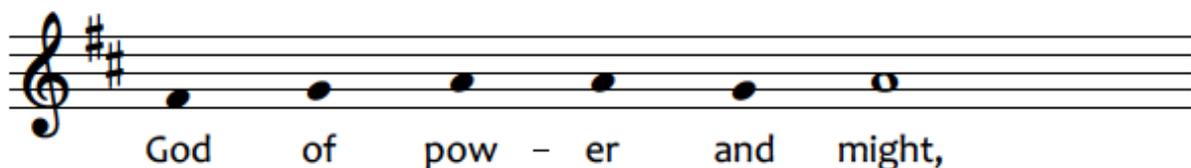
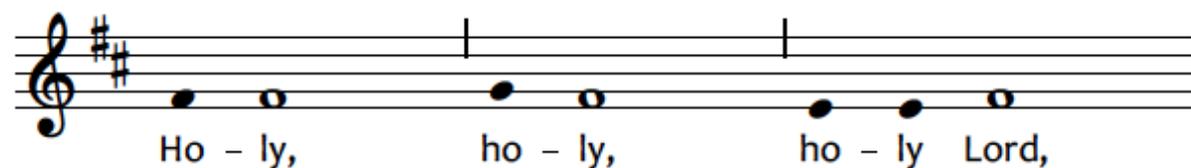
Lift up your hearts.

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, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In 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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

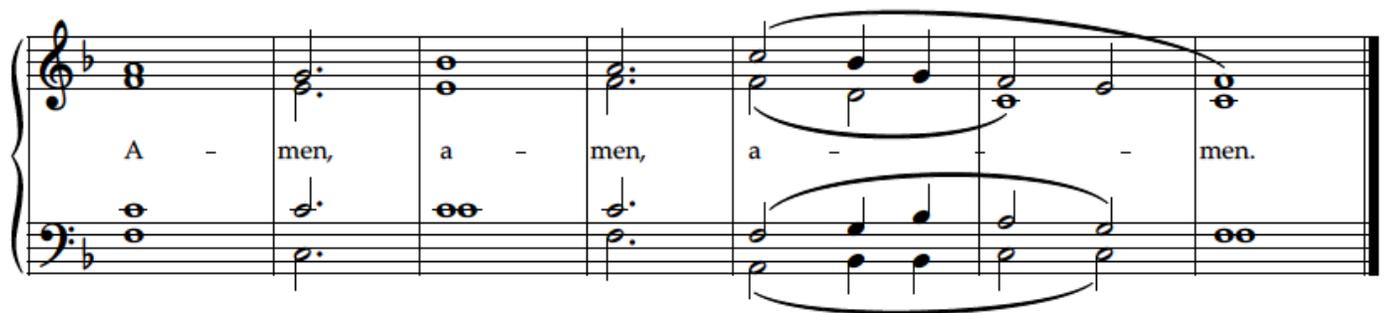
O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, 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,**

**who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy 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.**

**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

We break this bread,
Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.
**If we have died with Christ, we shall live with Christ;
if we hold firm, we shall reign with Christ.**

Communion

Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.
Thanks be to God!

Communion Song

Lord Jesus, of You Will I Sing

Lord Jesus, of you I will sing as I journey.

**I'll tell all my neighbours about you wherever I go.
You alone give us life, give us peace, give us love.
Lord Jesus, of you I will sing as I journey.**

**Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey,
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.**

**As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,
to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears;
for you save us by giving your body and blood.
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.**

**I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey,
but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side,
and with all of the people you saved by your love,
we'll sing to the dawn at the end of our journey.**

Prayers after Communion

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

Amen.

Announcements

Solemn Prayer over the People

Let us bow down before the Lord.

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

377 *To the Name of Our Salvation*

**To the Name of our salvation
laud and honour let us pay,
which for many a generation
hid in God's foreknowledge lay;
but with holy exultation
we may sing aloud today.**

**Jesus is the name we treasure,
name beyond what words can tell;
name of gladness, name of pleasure,**

ear and heart delighting well;
name of sweetness passing measure,
saving us from sin and hell.

'Tis the name that whoso preaches
speaks like music to the ear;
who in prayer this name beseeches
finds its comfort ever near;
who its perfect wisdom reaches,
heavenly joy possesses here.

Jesus is the name exalted
over every other name;
in this name, whene'er assaulted,
we can put our foes to shame:
strength to them who else had halted,
eyes to blind and feet to lame.

Therefore we in love adoring,
this most blessed name revere,
holy Jesus, thee imploring
so to write it in us here
that, hereafter heavenward soaring,
we may sing with angels there.

Therefore, we pray you, Lord, forgive;
so when our wanderings here shall cease,
we may with you for ever live
in love and unity and peace.

Go in peace. Believe the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Dismissal

Postlude

Announcements

Lent Series

(mostly) Wednesdays in Lent!

The downtown Anglican parishes are putting on a joint Lenten Series!
This year the theme is “Maturing into the Fullness of Christ.”

Wednesday Mar 4th from 7 – 8:30 @ the Nativity

Learning to Lament: Prayer Workshop

Wednesday Mar 11th from 7 – 8:30 @ St. Luke’s Mission

Evening Prayer with the Community of Common Prayer

Wednesday Mar 18th from 7 – 8:30 @ St. Paul’s, Westdale

Discipleship Lessons from Paul:

“Super Apostle” and “Worst of Sinners”

Wednesday Mar 25th from 7 – 8:30 @ the Cathedral

An Introduction to “Being With”

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. George, in Lowville.
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop,
and for Shane, our Primate.
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
and especially the Church of Ireland.

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Terry & Susan; for Charles & Rose; for Gayle

For the needs of the world:

For peace:

Remembering especially the people of Cuba during the fuel blockade.

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

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