

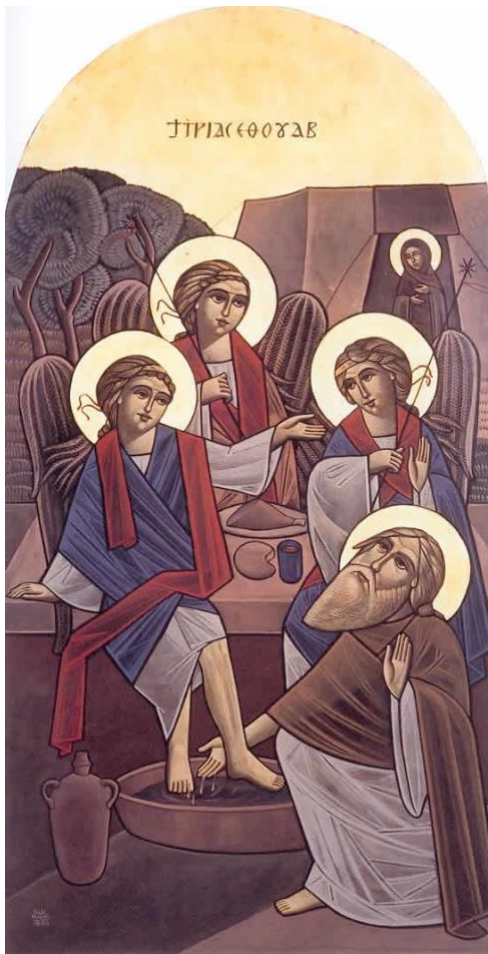


Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday

April 2nd, 2026



WEB EDITION

Called to Life — Compelled to Love



The territory where the Church of the Nativity resides has long been tended by many Indigenous peoples including the Neutrals, the Mississauga, the Anishinaabe, and the Haudenosaunee. With them, we are members of the Dish with One Spoon wampum, and we will strive to live up to our responsibility as treaty members and respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the nations of this place and the heritage and gifts of Métis people.

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.

Streaming: Our principal services are streamed to YouTube. We try to minimize individuals' appearances on camera.

Prelude

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

A bell is rung, and the service begins.

Processional Hymn #442

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here

**Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear, though marred, dishonoured, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.**

We come with self-inflicted pains of broken trust and chosen wrong,

half-free, half-bound by inner chains, by social forces swept along,
by powers and systems close confined, yet seeking hope for humankind.

Great God, in Christ you call our name and then receive us as your own,
not through some merit, right or claim, but by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat and find you kneeling at our feet.

Then take the towel, and break the bread, and humble us, and call us
friends.

Suffer and serve till all are fed, and show how grandly love intends
to work till all creation sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.

Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your joy to share.
Give us your Spirit's liberty to turn from guilt and dull despair
and offer all that faith can do while love is making all things new.

Welcome

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

Amen.

My family in Christ,
this is the day that Christ the Lamb of God
gave himself into the hands of those who would slay him.

This is the day that Christ gathered with his disciples in the upper room.

This is the day that Christ took a towel and washed the disciples' feet,
giving us an example that we should do to others as he has done to us.

This is the day that Christ our God gave us this holy feast,
that we who eat this bread and drink this cup
may here proclaim his Holy Sacrifice and be partakers of his resurrection,
and at the last day may reign with him in heaven.

The Collect ¹

Let us pray.

Gracious God,
your Son Jesus Christ has left to us
this meal of bread and wine
in which we share his body and his blood.
May we who celebrate this sign of his great love
show in our lives the fruits of his redemption;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading ²

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest

neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Exodus 12. 1 – 14

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 116.1 – 2, 12 – 19

Dilexi, quoniam ³

I love the Lord who has heard the voice of my supplication,
who has listened to me whenever I called.

How shall I repay you, O Lord,

for all the good things you have done for me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call upon your name.

**I will fulfil my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all the people.**

Precious in your sight, O Lord, is the death of your servants.

O Lord, I am your servant;

**I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.**

I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the Lord.

**I will fulfil my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all the people of God.**

In the courts of the house of the Lord,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

2nd Reading ³

A reading from the first letter to the followers of Jesus in Corinth.

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

The Gospel

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The image shows two staves of piano accompaniment for the Gospel text. The first staff is a grand staff with treble and bass clefs, 3/4 time signature, and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is in the right hand, and the bass line is in the left hand. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second staff is identical to the first, but it ends with a double bar line and repeat dots, indicating the end of the piece.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Saint John.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet

and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' Jesus said to him, 'One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.' For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.'

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

When Judas had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

John 13. 1 – 17, 31^b – 35

The gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Foot Washing

Fellow servants of our Lord Jesus Christ,
on the night before his death,
Jesus set an example for his disciples
by washing their feet, an act of humble service.

He taught that strength and growth in the life of the kingdom of God
come not by power, authority, or even miracle,
but by such lowly service.

Therefore, I invite you who share in the royal priesthood of Christ,
each and all of you I invite to come forward,
that we may recall whose servant we are
by following the example of our Master.

Come remembering his admonition
that what will be done for you is also to be done by you to others, for
“a servant is not greater than his master,
nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him.
If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.”

*All are welcome to come forward to take part in having their feet washed.
Music will be shared during the ceremony.*

The Prayers of the People

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you!
And also with you.

Feasting at the Table

Offertory Hymn # 184

My Song Is Love Unknown ⁴

Verses 1, 3 – 6

My song is love unknown, my Saviour's love to me;
love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I, that for my sake
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?

Sometimes they strew his way, and his sweet praises sing,
resounding all the day hosannas to their King;
then "Crucify!" is all their breath,
and for his death they thirst and cry.

Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
themselves displease and 'gainst him rise.

They rise and needs will have my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save, the Prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes
that he his foes from death might free.

**Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine;
never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine!
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.**

Prayer over the Gifts ⁵

Gracious God,
we spread this table
to remember the loving sacrifice of Jesus Christ, your Son.
Accept all we offer you this day.
Bind us together in his love
and in the love he has commanded us to bring one another;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving ⁶

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.

Meek and majestic God,
you set aside the perfection of your Trinitarian life to create the universe,
and you called the children of Abraham and Sarah
to be your priestly kingdom.
You gave your people freedom in the parting of the sea

and marked them for life with the blood of the Lamb.
In Jesus you laid aside the robe of your majesty
and knelt among your children,
facing humiliation and rejection.
In his agony in the garden and suffering on the cross
you showed the world the extent of your love
and your longing to bring us home
to the throne where we shall join angels and archangels
and all the company of heaven,
praising your holy name in the 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.**

Gracious God,
we spread this table
to remember the loving sacrifice of Jesus Christ, your Son.
Accept all we offer you this day.
Bind us together in his love
and in the love he has commanded us to bring one another;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
**we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all;
presenting to you, from your creation,

this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament

of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ,

and make them new, and bring us to that city of light

where you dwell with all your sons and daughters;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation,

the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,

now and for ever.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.
Amen.**

**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

**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.**

**The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!**

Prayer after Communion

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment, to love one another as he loved them. Write this commandment in our hearts; give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all who gave his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Recessional Hymn # 51 *Now My Tongue, the Mystery Telling* ⁷

This hymn is sung as the sacrament is taken to the altar of repose in the chapel.

**Now, my tongue, the mystery telling of the glorious body sing,
and the blood, all price excelling, which the nations' Lord and King,
once on earth among us dwelling, shed for this world's ransoming.**

**That last night, at supper lying with the twelve, his chosen band,
Jesus, with the law complying, keeps the feast its rites demand;
then, more precious food supplying, gives himself with his own hand.**

**Word-made-flesh, true bread he maketh very bread his flesh to be,
wine his blood; for whoso taketh; and if senses fail to see,
faith alone, the true heart waketh to behold the mystery.**

**Therefore we, before him bending, this great sacrament revere;
types and shadows have their ending, for the newer rite is here;
faith, our outward sense befriending, makes our inward vision clear.**

**Glory let us give, and blessing, to the Father and the Son;
honour, thanks, and praise addressing while eternal ages run;
and the Spirits power confessing, who from both with both is one.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'"

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

And Jesus said, "After I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters, because of you, I will never desert you." Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times."

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want."

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done."

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" And kissed him.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do." Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me
and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?
O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer;
by night as well, but I find no rest.

Yet you are the Holy One,
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
Our ancestors put their trust in you;
they trusted, and you delivered them.
They cried out to you and were delivered;
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

But as for me, I am a worm and not human,
scorned by all and despised by the people.
All who see me laugh me to scorn;
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
“You trusted in the Lord; let the Lord deliver you;
let God rescue you, if God delights in you.”

Yet you are the one who took me out of the womb,
and kept me safe upon my mother’s breast.
I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;
you were my God when I was still in my mother’s womb.

Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.
Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
They open wide their jaws at me, like a ravening and a roaring lion.
I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
My mouth is dried out like a potsherd;
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.

Packs of dogs close me in and gangs of evildoers circle around me;
they pierce my hands and my feet.
I can count all my bones
while they stare and gloat over me.
They divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.
Be not far away, O Lord; you are my strength; hasten to help me.

Save me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.
Save me from the lion's mouth,
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.

I will declare your name to my kindred;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.
Praise the Lord, you that fear God;
stand in awe of God, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
For God does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither turns away from them;
when they cry to the Lord, they are heard.
My praise is of God in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship the Lord.
The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall give praise:
"May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before God.

For sovereignty belongs to the Lord,
who rules over the nations.

To God alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust fall before God.

My soul shall live for God;
my descendants shall serve God;
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn
the saving deeds that God has done.



The Church of the Nativity

worshipwithnativity.org



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Mrs. Jan Collinson	
Mr. David Eccles	
Ms. Gayle MacDonald	
Mr. Derek Smith	<i>Wardens</i>

Sources

Our cover image is a Coptic icon of the foot washing.

¹ *Book of Alternative Services*.

² New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicized Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. <http://nrsvbibles.org>

³ *A Liturgical Psalter* (2016). General Synod from the Anglican Church of Canada.

⁴ Text: Samuel Crossman (1624?–83). Music: John N. Ireland (1879–1962). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁵ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁶ *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

⁷ Text: Thomas Aquinas (1225?–74). Translator: Edward Caswall (1814–78). Music: *Le Recueil note*, Lyon, 1871. Used under OneLicense A-604280.