



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 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.

Prelude

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

A bell is rung, and the service begins.

Processional Hymn # 474

Jesus, Where'er Thy People Meet ¹

**Jesus, where'er thy people meet,
there they behold thy mercy-seat;
Where'er they seek thee, thou art found,
and every place is hallowed ground.**

**For thou, within no walls confined,
inhabitest the humble mind;
such ever bring you where they come,
and going, take thee to their home.**

**Here may we prove the power of prayer
to strengthen faith and sweeten care,
to teach our faint desires to rise,
and bring all heaven before our eyes.**

**Lord, we are few, but thou art near;
nor short thine arm, nor deaf thine ear;
O rend the heavens, come quickly down,
and make a thousand hearts thine own!**

Welcome

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

May Christ's grace and peace be with you.
May Christ fill our hearts with joy.

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading

Peter shares God's invitation to fullness of life in Christ through baptism.

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Acts 2.14a, 36 — 41

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

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

**The cords of death entangled me;
the grip of the grave took hold of me;
I came to grief and sorrow.**

Then I called upon the name of the Lord:

“O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”

**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.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Peter reminds us that we are called to love one another deeply as those who have been born anew in Christ.

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

1 Peter 1.17 — 23

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The acclamation is sung



The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

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

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, ‘What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?’ They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, ‘Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?’ He asked them, ‘What things?’

They replied, ‘The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.’ Then he said to them, ‘Oh, how foolish you are,

and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?’ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, ‘Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.’ So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.

They said to each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?’ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, ‘The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!’ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Luke 24.13 — 35

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

The Apostles’ Creed

Let us confess the faith of our baptism,
as we say,
**I believe in God,
the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again
to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

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

Confession & Absolution

Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners
and invites them to his 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

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

Feasting at the Table

Offertory Hymn # 405

Alleluia No. 1³

Refrain: **Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the Risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

**Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
he is the king of creation. *Refrain...***

**Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and is risen. *Refrain...***

**We have been crucified with Christ:
now we shall live forever. *Refrain...***

**Come let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Saviour. *Refrain...***

If you wish to make a monetary gift, you can do so at any time by mailing a cheque to the church (1831 King Street East, Hamilton, ON L8K 1V8) or via e-transfer to donations.nativity@gmail.com

Prayer over the Gifts ⁴

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self.
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.
In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One.
In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world;
through Jesus the Christ, our Saviour and Lord.
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving ⁵

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.

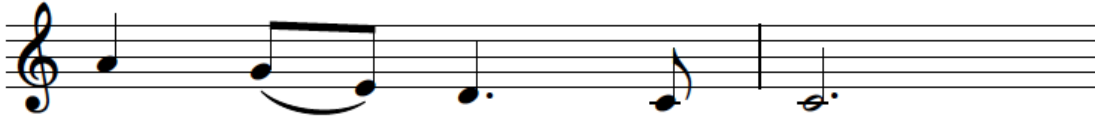
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter
and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels,
cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord



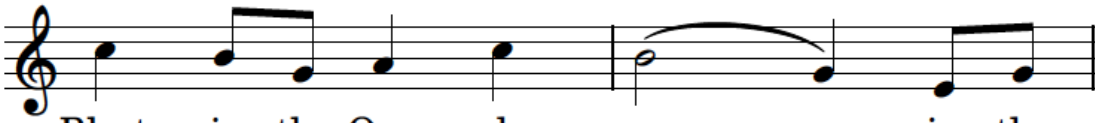
God of pow'r and might.



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry,



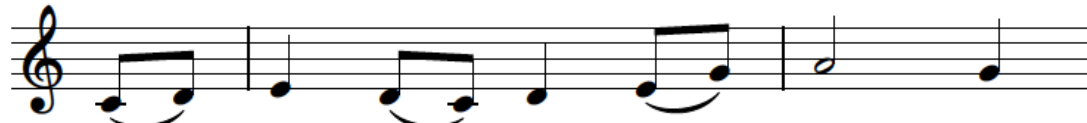
Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blest 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.

When the world was a formless void, you formed order and beauty.
When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child.
When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom.
Ruth faced starvation,
David fought Goliath,
the psalmists cried out for healing,
and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.
He was born among those living in poverty,
he lived under oppression,
he wept over the city.
With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

On 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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.

Amen!

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

Amen!

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

Amen!

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.

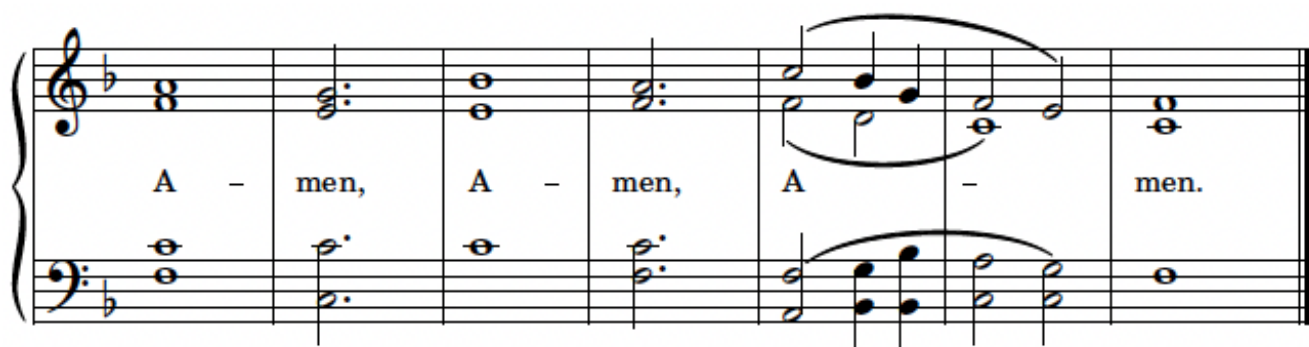
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.

O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.

O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic,
O God most motherly,
O God our strength and our song,
you show us a vision of a tree of life
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.

Grant us such life,
the life of the Father to the Son,
the life of the Spirit of our risen Saviour,
life in you, 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,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.

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.

**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.**

**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 ⁶

Lord, we died with you on the cross.
Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.
**Now we share in your resurrection.
Live in us, that we may live in you.**

Jesus Christ, risen from the dead,
gives everyone a place at the welcome table.
Alleluia! Come to the feast, for all is now ready.
Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

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 ⁷:

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.

Communion Hymn # 74

For the Bread Which You Have Broken⁸

**For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.**

**By these pledges that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to realms above us,
consecrate our lives, O Lord:**

**in your service, Lord, defend us;
help us to obey your word;
in the world to which you send us,
let your kingdom come, O Lord!**

Communion Hymn # 232

Jesus Is Risen from the Grave⁹

**Jesus is risen from the grave,
Jesus is risen from the grave,
Jesus is risen from the grave, alleluia.**

Jesus was seen by Mary...

Peter will soon be smiling...

Thomas will stop his doubting...

Jesus is here in bread and wine...

Jesus will meet his people...

Jesus will live for ever...

Prayer after Communion ¹⁰

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together.
Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Doxology ¹¹

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.

Parish Announcements

Blessing

Forth In Thy Name, O Lord, I Go ¹²

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

Alleluia! Go in peace! Serve the Risen One!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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 parish of St. Cuthbert, Oakville
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop;
and for Shane, our Primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
and especially The Church of the Province of
Myanmar (Burma)

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For June; For Marilyn; For Ken, Julie, Sam & Abby

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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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

Wardens

Sources

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¹ Text: William Cowper (1731—1800). To the tune FULDA (WALTON). Music: William Gardiner (1770—1853), *Sacred Melodies*, 1815.

² *A Liturgical Psalter: General Synod 2016 Edition*. Anglican Church of Canada.

³ Text: Donald Fishel (1950—). Music: Donald Fishel (1950—); arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham (1928—2019). © 1973 Word of God Music. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁴ *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁵ *Eucharistic Prayers*. Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.

⁶ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

⁷ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

⁸ Text: Louis Fitzgerald Benson (1855—1930), alt. Music to the tune SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard (1953—); arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham (1928—2019). Text and music © 1977 *Scripture in Song*. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁹ Text: John L. Bell (1949—), and Graham Maule (1958—). Music John L. Bell (1949—). Text and music © 1989 *WGRG The Iona Community*. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹⁰ *Sundays and Seasons*.

¹¹ Church of Wales.

¹² Text: Charles Wesley (1707—1788). Music: to the tune WARRINGTON, Ralph Harrison (1748—1810). Used under OneLicense A-604280.