



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

Saint Mary the Virgin
August 16, 2026



أيقونة صعود جسد والدة الإله القديسة مريم العذراء

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 # 372

Praise to the Holiest in the Height ¹

**Praise to the Holiest in the height, and in the depth be praise;
in all his words most wonderful, most sure in all his ways.**

**O loving wisdom of our God! When all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight and to the rescue came.**

**O generous love! that flesh and blood, which did in Adam fail,
should strive afresh against the foe,
should strive and should prevail:**

**and that the highest gift of grace should flesh and blood refine;
God's presence and his very self, and essence all-divine;**

**who in the garden secretly, and on the cross on high,
should teach his followers, and inspire to suffer and to die.**

**Praise to the Holiest in the height, and in the depth be praise;
in all his words most wonderful, most sure in all his ways.**

Welcome

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 ²

Let us pray.

O God, you have taken to yourself the blessed Virgin Mary,
mother of your incarnate Son.

May we who have been redeemed by his blood
share with her the glory of your eternal kingdom;
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

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: ‘Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

Isaiah 7.10—15

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

Psalm 132.6—10, 12—14 ³

Dominus regnavit

“The Ark! We heard it was in Ephratah;
we found it in the fields of Jearim.
**Let us go to the dwelling place of the Lord;
let us fall upon our knees
before the footstool of the Lord.”**

Arise, O Lord, into your resting-place,
you and the ark of your strength.
**Let your priests be clothed with righteousness;
let your faithful people sing with joy.**

For your servant David’s sake,
do not turn away the face of your anointed.
**If your children keep my covenant
and my testimonies that I shall teach them,
their children will sit upon your throne for evermore.”**

For you, O Lord, have chosen Zion,
and have desired it for your habitation:
**“This shall be my resting-place for ever;
here will I dwell, for I delight in it.**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir through God.

Galatians 4:4-7

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah;

hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah;

hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

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.** ♪

Mary said,

‘My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.’

Luke 1.46—55

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

Let us affirm the faith we share.

**We trust in God, who has created and is creating;
who came to us in Jesus, the word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new;
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.**

**We believe we are called to be God's people:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus' death and resurrection
by word and deed.**

**We live in hope because in life, in death, in life beyond death,
we are not alone: God is with us. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

℣ Merciful God,
℟ receive our prayer.

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

Steadfast and faithful God,
**you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.**
**We are overwhelmed
by the world's violence and suffering.**
We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.
**For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.**
**For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.**
**For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbour, forgive us.**
**Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. 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 # 362

Tell Out, My Soul ⁶

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**

**Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and forevermore!**

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 ⁷

God of mercy, receive all we offer you this day.
May we share with the Virgin Mary the joys of your eternal kingdom,
and live with you in unending love.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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.

Worship and praise belong to you, Holy God,
in every place and at all times.

You made us, all the people of the world,
and everything that is.

You give us the daylight.

Your Word lights up our minds.

Jesus was born among us to be light in our darkness.

Your Spirit lives in us so that we can look at the world with your eyes.

One day we will be with you in heaven,
but already we laugh with the saints and angels,
and sing their joyful song:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est,

ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bles-sed 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,
 heav'n 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.**

Gracious God,
you never forget us or turn away from us,
even when we fail you.
You sent your Son Jesus who gave his life for us.
Jesus healed those who were sick,
cared for those who lived in poverty,
and cried with those who were sad.
He forgave sinners and taught us to forgive.
For all your love we give you thanks in the way that Jesus showed us.

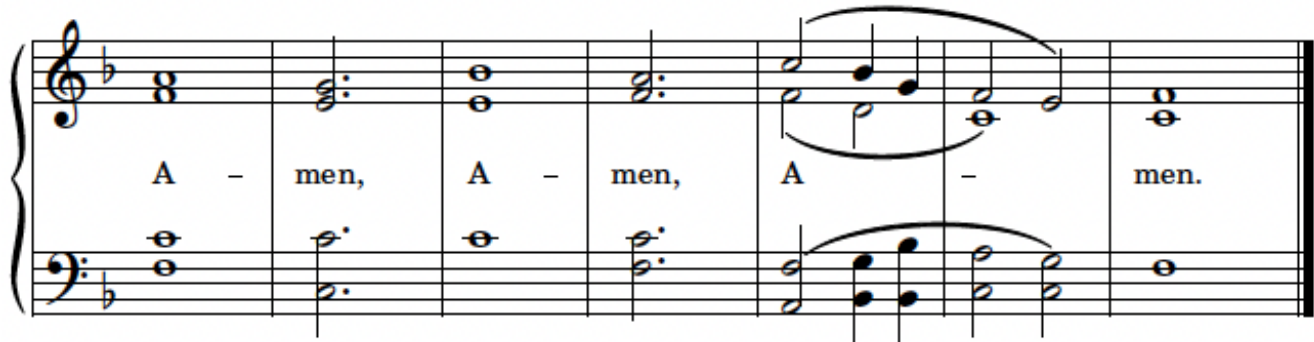
On the night before Jesus died,
while he was having supper with his friends,
he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread,
and gave it to them, saying:
“Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup,
offered you thanks,
and gave it to them saying:
“Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

So, as we do what Jesus told us, we open our hearts to him;
**we remember how he died and rose again
to live now in us.**

Together with Jesus we offer you these gifts:
in them we give you ourselves.

Send your Holy Spirit on us and on this bread and this wine,
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ,
and that, sharing your life,
we may travel in your company to our journey's end.
With all your people we give you thanks and praise
through the Son and in the Spirit, now and for ever.



Amen, Amen, Amen.

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.

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 the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
are yours, now and for ever.**

**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 ⁹

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
**God here among us, light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.
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 ¹⁰:

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.

Heavenly Message ¹¹

Heavenly message, brought by an angel,
coming to lift the hopes of the earth;
bringing to Mary humble and lowly,
God's invitation to the Christ birth.

Refrain: Mary we hail you, full of God's favour,
 blessed are you, and blessed your son;
 he will be called the child of the highest,
 Saviour of all, the holy one.

Mary replied to Gabriel's message,
"I am the servant, maid of the Lord.
Let it be done just as you have spoken.
My soul rejoices in God's saving word". *Refrain...*

In the beginning, when God had spoken,
through God's own Word all things came to be;
now by that Word, embodied through Mary,
God's glory blazes, that our eyes may see. *Refrain...*

Prayer after Communion ¹²

God of grace,
today we raise our voices to magnify your holy name,
and, in our own generation,
to call her blessed who became the mother of our Saviour Jesus Christ.
May we who have shared this holy food continue, with her,
in your glorious kingdom, founded and established in Jesus Christ our Lord.
We ask this in his name.
Amen.

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

Recessional Hymn # 525

The Church's One Foundation¹⁴

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, our Lord;
we are his new creation by water and the word:
from heaven he came and sought us to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought us, and for our life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
our charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one glorious name we hallow, partake one holy food,
and to one hope we follow, with every grace endued.

Though with a dismay and wonder we see the church oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

**'Mid toil and tribulation and tumult of our war,
we wait the consummation of peace for evermore,
till with the vision glorious our longing eyes are blessed,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.**

**Yet we on earth have union with God, the Three-in-One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
Oh, happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace, that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.**

Dismissal

Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!

Thanks be to God!

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 Holy Trinity, Fonthill;
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop;
and for Shane, our Primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
and especially The Church in Wales

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For Diane; For Brad & Darlene;
For Richard, Pearl & Kathleen

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

For Canon Cheryl Barker

**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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The Right Reverend Susan Bell
The Reverend Brian Galligan
The Reverend Canon David Linn
The Reverend Deacon Larry Collinson
Mr. Peter Harding
Mrs. Laura Brintnell
Mrs. Jan Collinson, Mr. David Eccles
Ms. Gayle MacDonald, Mr. Derek Smith

Bishop of Niagara
Interim Priest
Honorary Assistant
Parish Deacon
Director of Music
Parish Administrator

Wardens

Sources

Our cover image is a Coptic Icon of Mary, the Mother of Our Lord.

¹ Text: John Henry Newman (1801—90). Music: John Bacchus Dykes (1823—76). Used under OneLicense A-604280.

² *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* (2008), alt. From *Alternative Collects* from the Anglican Church of Canada.

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

⁴ *Celebrate God's Presence* (2000), The United Church of Canada.

⁵ *Invitation & Absolution: Book of Alternative Services*. Confession: *Sundays and Seasons*.

⁶ Text: *Song of Mary* (Luke 1.46-56); para. Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926—a). © 1962, 1990 Hope Publishing Co. alt. Music: Walter Greatorex (1877—1949); desc. David Iliff (1939—); altern harm. Derek Homan (1931—2019). *Melody & harmony* © Oxford UP. Desc. © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

⁷ *Book of Alternative Services*.

⁸ *The Scottish Liturgy*, 1982. Eucharistic Prayer V. Scottish Episcopal Church.

⁹ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.

¹⁰ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in “A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion,” Diocese of Niagara, 2020.

¹¹ Text: Paul Gibson. (1932—2022), ©. Music: Basque trad.; harm. Patrick Wedd (1948—a), ©. Used under OneLicense A-604280.

¹² *Book of Alternative Services*.

¹³ Church of Wales.

¹⁴ Text: Samuel John Stone (1839—1900), alt. Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810—76). Used under OneLicense A-604280.