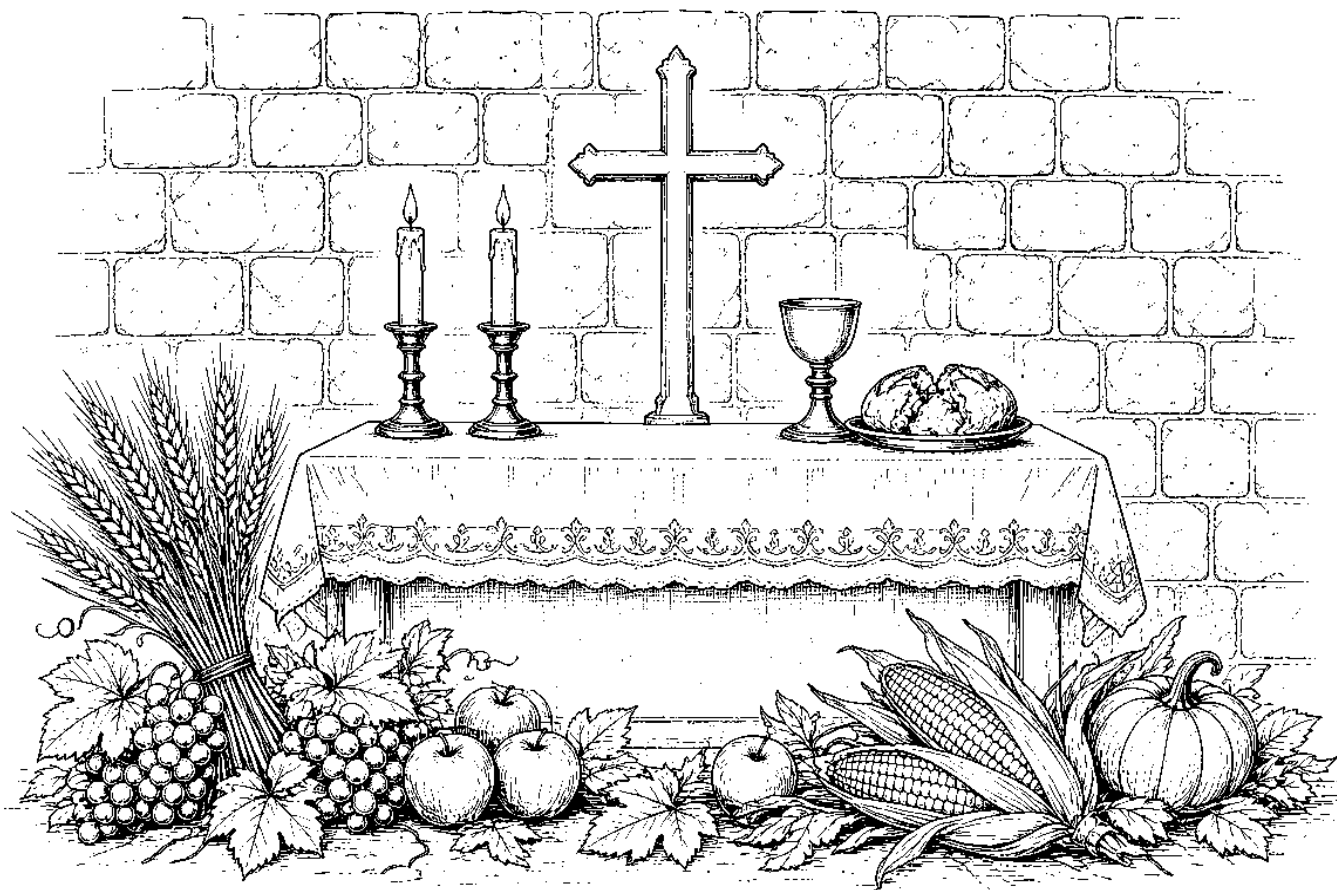




Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist

**Sunday of Thanksgiving
October 11, 2026**



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.

Gathering

Prelude

Music is offered to provide a time for quiet prayer and preparation.
A bell is rung, and we begin.

Processional Hymn # 398
Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

Words of Welcome
Apostolic Greeting

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.

Almighty God,
**to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts
of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify
your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Let us pray.

Creator of the fruitful earth, you made us stewards of all things.
Give us grateful hearts for all your goodness,
and steadfast wills to use your bounty well,
that the whole human family, today and in generations to come,
may with us give thanks for the riches of your creation.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Unfolding the Scriptures

First Reading
EXODUS 32:1-14

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF EXODUS

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord." They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel. The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have

worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation." But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

LISTEN TO THE LEADING OF THE SPIRIT.
THANKS BE TO GOD.

PSALM 106:1-6, 19-23²

Hallelujah! Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his mercy endures for ever.

**Who can declare the mighty acts of the Lord
or show forth all his praise?**

**Happy are those who act with justice
and always do what is right!**

Remember me, O Lord, with the favour you have for your people,
and visit me with your saving help;

**That I may see the prosperity of your elect
and be glad with the gladness of your people,
that I may glory with your inheritance.**

We have sinned as our forebears did;
we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.

**Israel made a bull-calf at Horeb and
worshipped a molten image;
And so they exchanged their Glory
for the image of an ox that feeds on grass.**

They forgot God their saviour, who had done great things in Egypt,
Wonderful deeds in the land of Ham,
and fearful things at the Red Sea.

**So he would have destroyed them,
had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach,
to turn away his wrath from consuming them.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

Second Reading
PHILIPPIANS 4:1-9

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, to together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

LISTEN TO THE LEADING OF THE SPIRIT.
THANKS BE TO GOD.

The Gospel
MATTHEW 22:1-14

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.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

Let us confess our faith, as we say:

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not
made, of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate
from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he
ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to
come.
Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

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

Confession & Absolution ⁴

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.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Monetary contributions to the Church of the Nativity and its ministries as we live out God's mission can be placed in the church-shaped box in the narthex at any time.

Offertory Hymn # 258 We Plough the Fields and Scatter

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 ⁵

Source of all life, the heaven and earth are yours,
yet you have given us dominion over all things.
Receive the symbols of our labour and love
which we offer you things day,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving ⁶

♪ The Lord be with you.

♪ **And also with you.**

♪ Lift up your hearts.

♪ **We lift them up to the Lord.**

♪ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

♪ **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right that we should praise you, gracious God, for you created all things. You formed us in your own image: male and female you created us. When we turned away from you in sin, you did not cease to care for us, but

opened a path of salvation for all people. You made a covenant with Israel, and through your servants Abraham and Sarah gave the promise of a blessing to all nations. Through Moses you led your people from bondage into freedom; through the prophets you renewed your promise of salvation. Therefore, with them, and with all your saints who have served you in every age, we give thanks and raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.



**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.**

Holy God, source of life and goodness, all creation rightly gives you praise. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son Jesus Christ, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners; he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor and to those in need. In all things he fulfilled your gracious will. On the night he freely gave himself to death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,

**“ TAKE, EAT: THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS GIVEN FOR YOU. DO THIS FOR THE
REMEMBRANCE OF ME.”**



After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,

**“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.
WHENEVER YOU DRIK IT, DO THIS FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF ME.”**



Gracious God, his perfect sacrifice destroys the power of sin and death; by raising him to life you give us life for evermore. Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

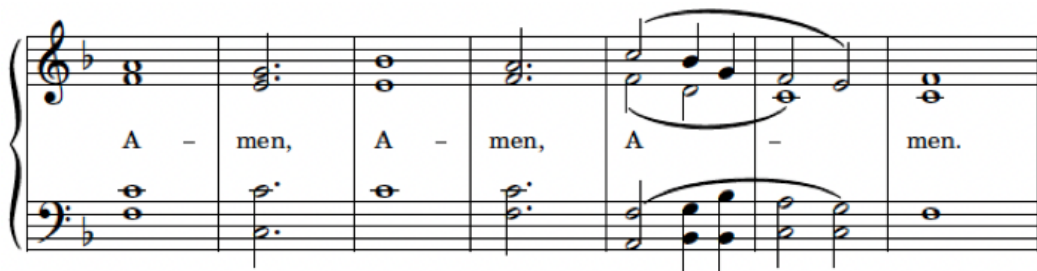
Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again in glory,
we offer you, Father, this bread and this cup. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body and one holy people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, almighty Father, 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.
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 ⁷

'I am the bread of life,' says the Lord.
'Whoever comes to me will never be hungry;
whoever believes in me will never thirst.'
**Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in God!**

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.
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 ⁸:

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 # 259
For the Fruit of All Creation

Prayer after Communion ⁹

God of our hope, in this eucharist
we find the source of all your blessings.
Nourished in these holy mysteries
may we, with our lives, give you continual thanks and praise.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Doxology ¹⁰

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.

Announcements

Blessing

Recessional Hymn # 399
Now Thank We All Our God

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 St. John, Ridgemount
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop;
and for Shane, our Primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
and especially The Anglican Church of Burundi

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:

For David, For Randy & Kelly; For Jen

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

worshipwithnativity.org

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The Right Reverend Susan Bell	Bishop of Niagara
The Reverend Wojtek Kuzma	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

Sources

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- ¹ *Prayers for an Inclusive Church*, qtd. in the Anglican Church of Canada's *Alternative RCL Collects*.
- ² *A Liturgical Psalter* (2016). General Synod from the Anglican Church of Canada.
- ³ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.
- ⁴ *Invitation & Absolution: Book of Alternative Services. Confession: Sundays and Seasons.*
- ⁵ *Sundays and Seasons*.
- ⁶ *Eucharistic Prayers* (2006). Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher.
- ⁷ *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.
- ⁸ Selected from the prayers provided for this use in "A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion," Diocese of Niagara, 2020.
- ⁹ *Sundays and Seasons*.
- ¹⁰ Church of Wales.