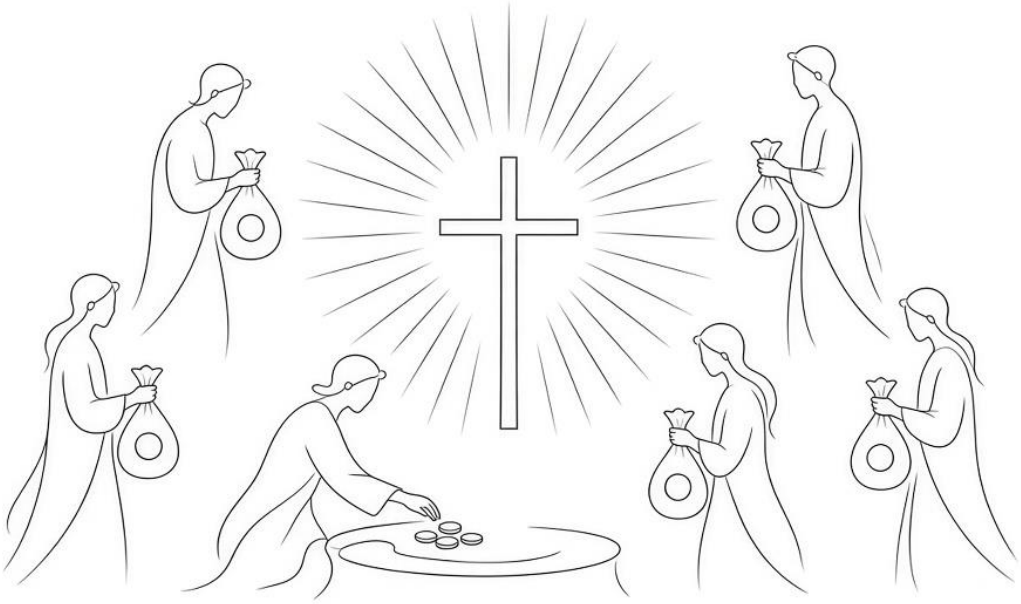
Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Holy Eucharist



25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026

Web Edition

Called to Life — Compelled to Love

Prelude

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

Gathering

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.

Processional Hymn **# 508**[1]
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
So weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.

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.

The Collect [2]

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
you sent your Son Jesus Christ
to be the light of the world.
Free us from all that darkens and ensnares us,
and bring us to eternal light and joy;
through the power of him
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Unfolding the Scriptures

1st Reading
JUDGES 4.1—7

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JUDGES
The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Haroshethhagoiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years. At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgement. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand."

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

PSALM *123*[3]

To you I lift up my eyes,
to you enthroned in the heavens.
As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters,
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes look to you, O Lord our God,
until you show us your mercy.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy,
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,
and of the derision of the proud.

2nd Reading
1 THESSALONIANS 5.1—11

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE THESSALONIANS
Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Sing praises, all you peoples,
Sing praises to the Lord.
Sing praises, all you peoples,
Sing praises to the Lord!

The Gospel
MATTHEW 25.14—30

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.

Jesus said, "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

The Gospel of Christ.
♪ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Sing praises, all you peoples,
Sing praises to the Lord.
Sing praises, all you peoples,
Sing praises to the Lord!

Homily

The Nicene Creed [4]

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

℣ God, in your mercy,
℟ **hear our prayer.**

Confession & Absolution [5]

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 Song **#82**
Open My Eyes that I May See [6]

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key,
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
ready, my God, Thy will to see;
open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
and while the wave-notes fall on my ear,
ev'rything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for Thee,
ready, my God, Thy will to see;
open my ears, illumine me,
Spirit divine!
Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth ev'rywhere;
Open my heart, and let me prepare
love with Thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
ready, my God, Thy will to see;
open my mouth, illumine me,
Spirit divine!

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]

Holy God,
in this eucharist we renew our baptismal covenant.
Help us, through our offering this day,
to renounce all things that draw us from your love.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer 1 [8]

♪ 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,

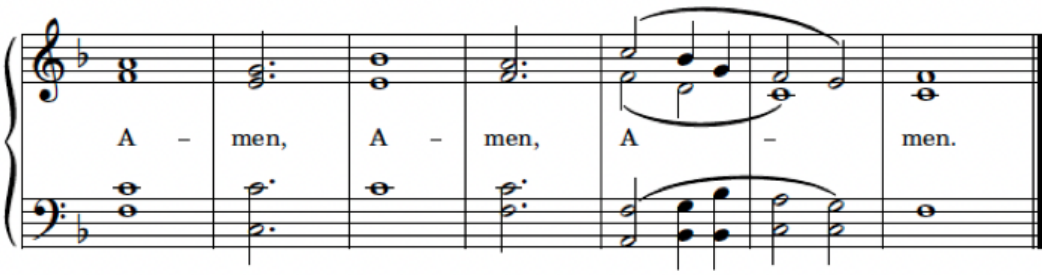
“DRINK THIS, ALL OF YOU: THIS IS MY BLOOD OF THE NEW COVENANT, WHICH IS SHED FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS. WHENEVER YOU DRIK IT, DO THIS FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF ME.”

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.

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,	**who art in heaven,**
hallowed be your name,	**hallowed be thy name,**
your kingdom come,	**thy kingdom come,**
your will be done,	**thy will be done,**
on earth as in heaven.	**on earth as it is in heaven.**
Give us today our daily bread.	**Give us this day our daily bread.**
Forgive us our sins	**And forgive us our trespasses**
as we forgive those	**as we forgive those**
who sin against us.	**who trespass against us.**
Save us from the time of trial,	**And lead us not into temptation,**
and deliver us from evil.	**but deliver us from evil.**
For the kingdom,	**For thine is the kingdom,**
the power, and the glory	**the power, and the glory,**
are yours, now and for ever.	**for ever and ever.**

Amen.

We keep silent and pray for a short time.

The Breaking of the Bread [9]

'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 [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.

Communion Hymn # **572**[11]

Let There Be Light

Let there be light,
let there be understanding,
let all the nations gather,
let them be face to face;

open our lips,
open our minds to ponder,
open the door of concord
opening into grace;

perish the sword,
perish the angry judgment,
perish the bombs and hunger,
perish the fight for gain;

hallow our love,
hallow the deaths of martyrs,
hallow their holy freedom,
hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come,
thy spirit turn to language,
thy people speak together,
they spirit never fade;

let there be light,
open our hearts to wonder,
perish the way of terror,
hallow the world God made.

Prayer after Communion [12]

Gracious God,
in this sacrament
we have shared the body and blood of Christ.
May we who have been nourished by holy things
bear witness to his light,
and share in his eternal priesthood;
for he is Lord for ever and ever.
Amen.

Doxology [13]

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 # **599**[14]
Awake! Awake! Fling Off the Night

Awake! Awake! Fling off the night,
for God has sent a glorious light,
and we who live in Christ's new day
must works of darkness put away.

Awake and sing, with praises strong,
in psalm and hymn and spirit-song.

Let love our words and works renew
with all that's good and right and true.

Let in the light; all sin expose
to Christ, whose life no darkness knows.
Before the cross expectant live,
that Christ may judge, and judging, heal.

Then rise as children of the light.
Be neither proud, nor hide from sight.
Be careful how you live, and wise
to sift the truth from cunning lies.

Through Christ give thanks to God, and say
to other sleepers on the way:
"Awake, and rise up from the dead
that Christ may shine on you instead!"

Dismissal

Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
and to honour my wonderful mother, Dorothy Oliver,
who would have celebrated her 100th birthday on Nov. 16, 2026.
lovingly remembered

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 Christ Church, Wainfleet;
For Anne, our Metropolitan Archbishop;
and for Shane, our Primate;
For the worldwide Anglican Communion,
and especially The Church of the Province of Central Africa

For those in our parish cycle of prayer:
For James; For Ted; For Brian & Shirley

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

Facebook	facebook.com/Nativityniagara/
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YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/@nativityniagara
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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

[1] Text: Horatius Bonar (1808—1889). Music: Melody English trad.; coll. Lucy Broadwood (1858—1929).
[2] *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.
[3] *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.
[4] *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.
[5] *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.
[6] Text and Music: Clara H. Scott. Used under OneLicense A-604280.
[7] *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.
[8] *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.
[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: Frances Wheeler Davis (1936—). Music: Robert J.B. Fleming (1921—76). © 1976 Margaret Fleming. Used under OneLicense A-604280.
[12] *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.
[13] Church of Wales.
[14] Text: J.R. Pearcey (1896—1971). © 1991 Hope Publishing. Music: James William Elliott (1833—1915). Used under OneLicense A-604280.