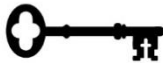




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TO WORSHIP GOD,  
*to grow as disciples of Jesus,*  
TO CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER,  
*to take God's love to the world.*



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905-522-9098 | cpchamilton.ca  
CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
165 Charlton Ave. W., Hamilton, ON L8P 2C8

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAMILTON

September 10, 2023 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service

Minister – Rev. Dr. Nick Athanasiadis

Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes

Lector – Jim Evel

A Warm Welcome to Worship at Central this morning!

\* Indicates standing, as you are able.

PRELUDE *Adagio: Cantabile con divozione*  
*Meditation Religieuse*

F. Liszt  
A. Schreiner

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT *To Show By Touch and Word*

R. Klusmeier, Words by F. Kaan

*Renew our minds to choose the things that matter most,  
our hearts to long for truth till pride of self is lost.  
For every challenge that we face, we need your guidance and your grace.  
Let love from day to day be yardstick, rule and norm,  
and let our lives portray your word in human form.  
Now come with us that we may have your wits about us where we live.*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We meet in the name of God,  
Creator of the universe,  
Source of true humanity,  
Mother and Father of us all.

Congregation: **We meet in the name of Jesus,  
Word made flesh,  
Saviour of fallen humanity,  
Lover of all.**

We meet in the name of the Holy Spirit  
Lord and giver of life,  
Midwife of a new humanity,  
Inspirer of all.

Come then, eternal God  
**Be present here,  
Befriend us here,  
Renew us here.**

## PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE PEACE May the peace of Christ be with you; **and also with you.**

\* HYMN - O God, Thou Art My God Alone

37

1. O God, thou art my God alone;  
early to thee my soul shall cry,  
a pilgrim in a land unknown,  
a thirsty land whose springs are dry.

2. Yet through this rough and thorny maze  
I follow hard on thee, my God;  
thy hand unseen up holds my ways;  
I safely tread where thou hast trod.

3. Thee in the watches of the night  
when I remember on my bed,  
thy presence makes the darkness light;  
thy guardian wings are round my head.

4. Better than life itself, thy love,  
dearer than all beside to me,  
for whom have I in heaven above,  
or what on earth, compared with thee?

5. Praise with my heart, my mind, my voice,  
for all thy mercy I will give;  
my soul shall still in God rejoice;  
my tongue shall bless thee while I live.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leader: We believe in God, Holy One  
Congregation: **Creating and giving life to the world;  
love indescribable and beyond our imagining  
yet closer than our breathing.**

We believe in Jesus, Companion  
**The truth of God, challenger of false values;  
the life of God inviting us to new beginnings.**

We believe in the Spirit, Encourager,  
**Breathing into us renewing power,  
interpreting our longing for truth,  
and probing with us,  
the depths of God's wisdom.**

We believe in the company of God's people;  
**Called to live as people of the way;  
heirs to the promises of God,  
which sustain us in what we know  
and invites us to travel on in discovery and hope.**

*(Adapted from a New Zealand liturgy)*

\* HYMN - We Are One in the Spirit

471 (see pgs. 7-8)

## TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

*Following the Time with the Children, a program for children SK – Grade 8 will be available in the upstairs Faith Finders room. Parents can meet the children there following worship. Staffed Nursery is available for our young ones up to age 4 throughout the entire service.*

## BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS LITANY

Leader: Together we are the body of Christ,  
**Congregation: and we belong to each other.**  
We can share our joy, laughter, and hope,  
**We can share our fears, overwhelm, and sadness.**  
When we share what is good,  
**It is multiplied.**  
When we share what is hard,  
**The load is divided.**  
In our schools and communities,  
**May we learn and grow.**  
In our classes and groups,  
**May we show support and build each other up.**  
In our homes and families,  
**May we embody care and spark love.**  
Together we are the body of Christ,  
**And we belong to each other.**

### GOD SPEAKS TO US

RESPONSIVE READING

**Psalm 149** in the Red Book of Psalms, **Refrain I**

SCRIPTURE READING (p. 58)

Exodus 12:1-14

SCRIPTURE READING (p. 162)

Romans 13:8-10

SERMON: *An Ambiguous Story*

### OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

\* HYMN – Let There Be Light

727 (see p. 9)

THE OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERTORY *O How Amiable*

R. Vaughan Williams

*O How amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of hosts!  
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord:  
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.*

*Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:  
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.  
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: They will be always praising thee.*

*The glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us: prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.  
O prosper thou our handy work. O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.*

\* THE DOXOLOGY AND PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below:  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, 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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
For ever and ever. Amen**

**GOD SENDS US**

\* HYMN - O Day of Peace that Dimly Shines

732 (see pgs. 10-11)

\* THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Fugue in C Major*

A. Scarlatti, Ed. by C. Callahan

Central Presbyterian Church is here to offer sacred space for worship, a safe space for community groups to gather, and a generous space to **Hamilton Out of the Cold** serving meals to those who need them. Your presence with us today and your support of our work means so much. May God bless you richly!

For any pastoral concerns, please contact Rev. Lois Whitwell (905-522-9098 ext. 2 or [lois@cpchamilton.ca](mailto:lois@cpchamilton.ca)).

Central's Prayer Team is available to receive needs in confidence. Contact Pam Carpenter at 905-526-0631 or [carpenterfamily@sympatico.ca](mailto:carpenterfamily@sympatico.ca).

If you would like to get to know Central better, please introduce yourself to an usher and/or spend some time going through our Website ([www.cpchamilton.ca](http://www.cpchamilton.ca)). If you would like to be added to our email list, please let Helena know ([helena@cpchamilton.ca](mailto:helena@cpchamilton.ca) or 905-522-9098 ext. 0).

Word of the Day:

*The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup> This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you (Exodus 12: 1-2).*

## We are one in the Spirit

WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT Irregular with refrain

Fm Cm Fm

1. We are one in the Spir - it, we are  
 2. We will walk with each oth - er, we will  
 3. We will work with each oth - er, we will  
 4. All praise to the Fath - er, from

Cm Fm Bbm

one in the Lord, we are one in the  
 walk hand in hand, we will walk with each  
 work side by side, we will work with each  
 whom all things come, and all praise to Christ

Fm Cm Fm

Spir - it, we are one in the Lord, and we  
 oth - er, we will walk hand in hand, and to -  
 oth - er, we will work side by side, and we'll  
 Je - sus, who is God's on - ly Son, and all

Words: Peter Scholtes (1938-) Music: Peter Scholtes (1938-); harmony, Richard D. Wetzel (1935-)

Words: copyright © F.E.L. Publications, assigned to The Lorenz Corp., 1991 Dayton, OH. All rights reserved. Used by permission-license #401891. Music: copyright © F.E.L. Publications, assigned to The Lorenz Corp., 1991 Dayton, OH. All rights reserved. Used by permission-license #401891; harmony, copyright © The Westminster Press, 1972

B♭m Cm Fm Cm7

pray that all u - ni - ty will one day be re -  
 geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our  
 guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save each one's  
 praise to the Spir - it, who makes us

Fm Fm7 D♭ Cm

stored,  
 land,  
 pride,  
 one,  
 and they'll know we are Chris-tians by our

Fm /E♭ D♭ Fm Fm

love, by our love, and they'll know we are

B♭m Cm Fm

Chris - tians by our love.



# Let there be light

CONCORD 4776

G /B C Dsus4 - 3 /C G/B Am7 (D/A) G/B C6 G/D D

1. Let there be light; let there be un - der - stand - ing;  
2. O - pen our lips; o - pen our minds to pon - der;  
3. Per - ish the sword; per - ish the an - gry judge - ment;  
4. Hal - low our love; hal - low the deaths of mar - tyrs;

D/C G/B C D6 - 7 Em Am9 D 7 G

let all the na - tions ga - ther; let them be face to face.  
o - pen the door of con - cord, o - pen - ing in - to grace.  
per - ish the bombs and hun - ger; per - ish the fight for gain.  
hal - low their ho - ly free - dom; hal - low - ed be your name.

5. Your kingdom come;  
your spirit turn to language;  
your people speak together;  
your spirit never fade.

6. Let there be light;  
open our hearts to wonder;  
perish the way of terror;  
hallow the world God made.

Words: Frances Wheeler Davis (1936-) Music: Robert J.B. Fleming (1921-1976)

Words: copyright © Frances Wheeler Davis Music: copyright © Margaret Fleming

## O day of peace that dimly shines

JERUSALEM 8 8 8 8 LMD

Piano introduction in D major, 4/4 time. The right hand features a series of chords and moving lines, while the left hand provides a steady bass line. The piece begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic.

Vocal line and piano accompaniment for the first two lines of the hymn. The vocal line is in D major, 4/4 time. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. The first line is marked *f* and the second line is marked *mf*. Chords are indicated below the piano part: D, Bm, G, D, G.

1. O day of peace that dim-ly shines through all our  
 2. Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the

Vocal line and piano accompaniment for the final two lines of the hymn. The vocal line is in D major, 4/4 time. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. Chords are indicated below the piano part: D, Bm, /A, G, D, Bm, F#m.

hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to jus - tice, truth and  
 fierce de - vour the small; as beasts and cat - tle calm - ly

Words: Carl P. Daw Jr. (1944-) Music: Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918);  
 arrangement, Gordon Jacob (1895-1984)

Words: copyright © 1982 by Hope Publishing Co. Music: arrangement, copyright © Boosey & Hawkes (Canada) Ltd.

love, de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes. May swords of  
 graze, a lit - tle child shall lead them all. Then en - e -

Bm 6 F#m Bm F#m E7 Asus4 - 3 Em/G B7/F#

hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re -  
 mies shall learn to love, all crea - tures find their true ac -

Em (7) Am Em (A7/E) G/D D7

lease, till by God's grace our war - ring world shall see Christ's  
 cord; the hope of peace shall be ful - filled, for all the

Gsus2- 1 (D) Em /A A7/G D/F# D (A/C# Bm) G

*f* ————— *ff*



### **Invitation to Membership**

There will be an opportunity for adherents and friends of this congregation to become members. Membership is not about being religious or increasing your attendance. Membership is about committing yourself at this point in your life to journeying toward God in the company of a particular fellowship of God's people. If this congregation is helping and supporting your spiritual journey, you are encouraged to become a member.

Please speak to Nick Athanasiadis (Interim Minister) or to Sara Traficante (Coordinator of Discipleship), if you are considering such a step at this point in your life, or if you would like to know more. We plan to welcome new members on Reformation Sunday October 29.

### **Statement of Welcome and Inclusion Central Presbyterian Church God's Love Includes Everyone**

We strive to be a welcoming, nurturing, loving, and supportive community unified in Jesus Christ. As an inclusive congregation, we joyfully affirm and honour the diversity of God's creation. Our community is richer when we include people of all ages, gender identities, racial and cultural backgrounds, sexual orientations, abilities, economic circumstances and family configurations. We proclaim this statement of inclusion to all who have experienced the pain of exclusion or discrimination by the church and society. All are invited to join a body of believers, to participate fully in the life, leadership, witness and ministry of Central Presbyterian Church. We acknowledge we are imperfect and in different stages of our faith journey. **No matter who you are, how you identify, whom you love, or where you are on life's journey: know you are welcome here, and you are loved by God.**

CPC Statement of Welcome: [www.cpchamilton.ca/welcome-statement/](http://www.cpchamilton.ca/welcome-statement/)

### **"PLEASE HELP !!!"**

The Misson committee is in the process of putting together 50 hygiene bags for HOOTC (Hamilton Out of the Cold) to be used at their discretion to aid folks on the street who can't afford the simple luxury of everyday hygiene necessities. Please help us complete this most needed outreach by supplying shampoo and deodorants (**travel size only**). Gloria, Shirley, Janet or Jim will be at Central's front entrance on Sunday, with a basket to receive these donations.

Many thanks in advance: The Mission Committee



## Congregational Givings

### *OFFERING in support of the worship and mission of Central*

You can choose to support this good work by placing a gift on the offering plate, through pre-authorized remittance (PAR), donating online, via Interac E-Transfer or cheque. Please send to [bookkeeper@cpchamilton.ca](mailto:bookkeeper@cpchamilton.ca), include your envelope # or mailing address for tax receipt purposes. For ways to give, visit [cpchamilton.ca/giving](http://cpchamilton.ca/giving)

	<u>Revenues as of August 31, 2023</u>		
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Over (Short)</u>
<b>Congregational Givings</b>	\$ 154,202	\$ 134,896	\$ (19,306)
<b>Other Revenue</b>	48,393	44,623	(3,770)
<b>Trustees as budgeted</b>	131,253	131,253	-
	<u>\$ 333,848</u>	<u>\$ 310,772</u>	<u>\$ (23,076)</u>

Note: There is a shortfall between budgeted and actual revenues and Trustees providing support



### **Come Sing With Us . . .**

Add your voice to the chorus of praise that lifts our songs in worship at Central! The choir of Central Presbyterian Church seeks singers with good music reading abilities to join our regular weekly ministry. We also welcome additional singers to join us temporarily for special events in the Christmas and Easter seasons.

For information, please contact Dr. Marcus Scholtes, at [music@cpchamilton.ca](mailto:music@cpchamilton.ca)

### **Central Presbyterian Church – Land Acknowledgement**\*

We acknowledge with gratitude and respect that Central Presbyterian Church is located on the traditional territories of the Anishnaabek and Haudenosaunee peoples.

This land is protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to share and care for the lands, air, and waters around the Great Lakes.

We further acknowledge this land is covered by the Between the Lakes Purchase, 1792, between the Crown and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

We recognize that we must learn about the rich history of this land to better understand our role as residents, neighbours, partners and caretakers. We are all treaty people.

\* Our website has a guide explaining the above Land Acknowledgement <https://www.cpchamilton.ca/land-acknowledgement/>

## Prompts for Reflection

The institution of the Passover, when the destroying angel “passes over” the homes of the Israelite slaves whilst they are still in Egypt, brings starkly before us, ancient ambiguities which remain unresolved. What does it cost to be freed from the evil of oppression?



Photo by [Narayan Gopalan](#) on [Unsplash](#)

How do we reconcile that to pass over one house is not to pass over another? Though these questions remain unanswered, they are still being asked, which indicates that we are still alive to the moral struggle for us human creatures living on this earth.

--Nick Athanasiadis

### **Knit and Knatter:**

Our Knit and Knatter group is restarting after the summer break on Tuesday, September 12. The group meets each Tuesday morning from 10:00 a.m. – noon, and everyone is welcome. Knitting needles and yarn are provided, and even some knitting help. Please contact Jean Williams if you have any questions about Knit and Knatter (905-388-5453 or email: [myomajejan1@gmail.com](mailto:myomajejan1@gmail.com)).

*Interim Minister – The Rev. Dr. Nicholas Athanasiadis*

*Minister Emeritus – The Rev. Dr. Alan M. McPherson*

*Director of Pastoral Care – The Rev. Lois Whitwell*

*Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes*

*Coordinator of Discipleship - Sara Traficante*

*General Accountant – Zafar Iqbal*

*Office Administrator – Helena Bootsma*

*Custodian – Rob Monkelbaan*

*Sunday & Special Event Custodian – Geoff French*

*Nursery Coordinator – Cathy Slattery*

Telephone: 905-522-9098 Email: [info@cpchamilton.ca](mailto:info@cpchamilton.ca) [www.cpchamilton.ca](http://www.cpchamilton.ca)

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