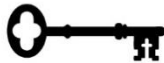




TO WORSHIP GOD,
to grow as disciples of Jesus,
TO CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER,
to take God's love to the world.



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

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAMILTON

February 11, 2024 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service

Minister – Rev. Dr. Nick Athanasiadis

Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes

Lector – Seke Fowode

A Warm Welcome to Worship at Central this morning!

* Indicates standing, as you are able.

*Staffed Nursery is available for our young ones up to age 4 throughout the entire service.
During this worship service, our Faith Finder children are in the Fellowship Hall
preparing to serve you brunch.*

PRELUDE *To Thy Temple I Repair*

L. Lenel

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT – *We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding* Words: D. P. Daw, Jr., Music by D. A. White

*We have come at Christ's own bidding to this high and holy place,
where we wait with hope and longing for some token of God's grace.
Here we pray for new assurance that our faith is not in vain,
searching like those first disciples for a sign both clear and plain.*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: When we walk with wonder
 Hold our hands.

**Congregation: When we walk with you through darkness
 Hold our hands.**

When we walk with you in justice
Hold our hands.

**When we walk with you to glory
Hold our hands and bring us safely home.**

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
 joy of heaven, to earth come down;
 fix in us thy humble dwelling,
 all thy faithful mercies crown.
 Jesus, thou art all compassion,
 pure, unbounded love thou art;
 visit us with thy salvation,
 enter every trembling heart.

2. Breathe, oh breathe thy loving Spirit
 into every troubled breast!
 Let us all in thee inherit,
 let us find the promised rest;
 take away our love of sinning;
 Alpha and Omega be;
 end of faith as its beginning,
 set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, almighty to deliver,
 let us all thy grace receive;
 suddenly return and never,
 never more thy temples leave.
 Thee we would be always blessing,
 serve thee as thy hosts above,
 pray and praise thee, without ceasing,
 glory in thy perfect love.

4. Finish then thy new creation;
 pure and spotless let us be;
 let us see thy great salvation
 perfectly re stored in thee,
 changed from glory into glory
 till in heaven we take our place,
 till we cast our crowns before thee,
 lost in wonder, love and praise.

PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* HYMN - Lord, The Light of Your Love Is Shining

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GOD SPEAKS TO US

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 50:1-6 in the Red Book of Psalms, **Refrain I**

SCRIPTURE READING (p. 18)

Matthew 17:1-9

SERMON: *"The Cloud of Unknowing"*

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* HYMN – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

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1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes;
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

2. Unresting, unhasting and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3. To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither, and perish; but naught changeth thee.

4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: oh help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

THE OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERTORY *There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob*

F. Mendelssohn

*There shall a star come out of Jacob, and a sceptre shall rise out of Israel,
To reign in Glory, over the nations, There shall a star come out of Jacob.
As bright the star of morning gleams, So Jesus sheddeth glorious beams
Of light and consolation.
Thy Word, O Lord, Radiance darting, Truth imparting, Gives salvation;
Thine be praise and adoration!*

* 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 – To God Be the Glory

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* THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Ride On, Ride On, in Majesty*

H. A. Metzger

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). Central's Prayer Team is available to receive needs in confidence. Contact Pam Carpenter at 905-526-0631 or 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). If you would like to be added to our email list, please inform Helena (helena@cpchamilton.ca or 905-522-9098 ext. 0).

Lent Study 2024

This year, we will be joining the Presbyterians Read Lent Book Study 2024: "A 40-Day Journey with Julian of Norwich."

Two study meetings at Central, facilitated by Sara Traficante.

Sunday, March 3 and 17, 9:00am - 10:00am, with coffee and muffins, in the Allan Room.

Email sara@cpchamilton.ca to register or call the church office.

All are invited to join in the online conversation on the Presbyterian Reads Facebook page, facilitated by Rev. Dr. Emily Bisset.

Learn more about the study and link to the Facebook discussion here -

<https://presbyterian.ca/canadian-ministries/presbyterians-read/>

We have copies available through the Central office.

Please contact Sara or the office if you would like to purchase a copy.

The E-book version is available for purchase through major online retailers.

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SHINE, JESUS, SHINE 9 9 10 10 6 with refrain (13 9 13 10)

A D/A $\text{\$}$ E/A D/A A D/A E/A D/A

Unison

A Asus A E/A A Asus

1. Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing in the midst of the
 2. Lord, I come to your awe - some pres - ence, from the sha - dows in -
 3. As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, so our fa - ces dis -

A E/A D E/D

dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, Light of the
 to your ra - diance; by your blood I may
 play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from

C#m F#m D E/D

World, shine up - on us. Set us free by the
 en - ter your bright - ness. Search me, try me, con -
 glo - ry to glo - ry: mir - rored here may our

Words: Graham Kendrick (1950-) Music: Graham Kendrick (1950-)

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C#m F#m G Esus E G Esus E

truth you now bring us.
sume all my dark-ness. Shine on me; shine on me.
lives tell your sto - ry.

Refrain
A E/A A D A Bm Bm/A

Shine, Je - sus shine; fill this land with the
Flow, riv - er, flow; flood the na - tions with

Esus E Esus E A E/A A D A

Fa - ther's glo - ry; blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our
grace and mer - cy; send forth your word, Lord, and

1. Bm Bm/A G Esus E 2. Bm E7 A D/A D.S. A Last time

hearts on fire. let there be light!

To God be the glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY 11 11 11 11 with refrain

G /B D 7 G /B D G

1. To God be the glo - ry, who great things has done!
 2. Oh per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood,
 3. Great things God has taught us, great things God has done

C G (/B) A9 (/C#) D

God so loved the world!—free - ly send - ing the Son,
 to eve - ry be - liev - er the pro - mise of God,
 and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son,

7 G /B D 7 G /B D G

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
 that when the of - fen - der, re - pent - ing, be - lieves,
 but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

Words: Fanny J. Crosby (1820–1915), alt Music: William H. Doane (1832–1916)

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7 Csus2 C6 G D G/D D7 G

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
 through Je - sus' a - tone - ment, full par - don re - ceives!
 our won - der, our glad - ness, when Je - sus we see!

Refrain G G/B D7/A G D

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear God's voice!

D G/B D7/A G

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the peo - ple re - joice!

D7 G /B D 7 G /B D G

Oh come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son,

G7 Csus2 C6 G/D D G/D D7 G
 and give God the glo - ry, who great things has done.

To God be the Glory
Original Words

1. To God be the glory! great things he hath done!
 So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
 who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
 and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice;
 praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice.
 Oh come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
 and give him the glory; great things he hath done!

2. Oh perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
 to every believer the promise of God;
 the vilest offender who truly believes,
 that moment from Jesus a pardon receives!

Refrain:

3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
 and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
 but purer and higher and greater will be
 our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see!

Refrain:

Hamilton Food Share Drive, February 17, 2024

The Mission Committee has decided again this year to have a **“drive through food drop off station” set up on Saturday, February 17, 2024 from 12 noon - 3 PM.** The drop off will be located in the alley on the south side of Central Presbyterian Church. You will enter the alley from Hess St. and exit onto Caroline St. All food must be **non perishable items.**



Cash and cheques also appreciated (**cheques must be made out to The Hamilton Food Share**) (**no food vouchers or gift cards accepted this time**).

Many folks in our community are still trying to recoupe from covid 19 and in need of food. We are asking for your help. Please encourage your neighbors to drop by as well. All donations will go to the **Hamilton Food Share**. There is a great demand and their supplies are running out.

There will be a **follow up drop off on Sunday, February 18, 2024** inside the front entrance of the church. If you are unable to use the “drop off” or “attend church”, please feel free to call your Elder, or Gloria Gavin (905-627-4318 or e-mail gloriagavin@bell.net). We will be happy to assist. Many Thanks in advance.

Sincerely , The Mission Committee

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD

- Kidney beans,
- Canned meats & fish
- Pasta Sauce
- Dry Pasta & rice
- Baby food & formula (8 weeks expiry left on it)
- Canned fruit
- Fruit drinking boxes
- Kids nutritional treats, (cereal bars & fruit cups)
- Canned pasta
- Meat based soups
- Canned & powdered milk
- Kraft dinner
- Jam - canned vegetable -Pork and Beans – Red and white beans
- Peanut butter - honey

Enter Hess St



drop off

Exit onto Caroline





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

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/


Congregational Givings

OFFERING in support of the worship and mission of Central

You can support this good work by donating in various means. You can place a gift on the offering plate, use pre-authorized remittance (PAR), donate online, send money via Interac E-Transfer, or send a cheque to bookkeeper@cpchamilton.ca. Please make sure to include your envelope number or mailing address for tax receipt purposes. For ways to give, visit cpchamilton.ca/giving

Please ensure your information is up-to-date with your elder or the church office, if you have moved, are moving, or have changed any of your contact information.

Stewardship Moment



We make a living
by what we get;
we make a life
by what we give.

Winston Churchill

The Presbyterian Church in Canada

presbyterian.ca

Interim Minister – The Rev. Dr. Nicholas Athanasiadis

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

Interim Moderator – The Rev. Dr. Philip Wilson

Director of Pastoral Care – The Rev. Lois Whitwell

Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes

Coordinator of Discipleship – Sara Traficante

Bookkeeper – Michelle Frebold

Office Administrator – Helena Bootsma

Custodian – Richard Plante

Sunday & Special Event Custodian – Geoff French

Nursery Coordinator – Cathy Slattery

Telephone: 905-522-9098

Email: info@cpchamilton.ca

www.cpchamilton.ca

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Word of the day

And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white (Matt. 17: 2).

Prompts for Reflection

There are two streams running through Christian theology (theology literally means “talk about God”). These two streams are known as “kataphatic” or the affirmative way, and the “apophatic” or the negative way, the “via negativa,” the way of not knowing – which says that it is safer to say who God is not, than to presume to know who God is. Yet both ways have been honoured and have served to balance one another.

That said, our Western Christianity has tended more toward the way of knowing. And there is a danger here. The danger of presumption, that we know and can therefore enlighten others. But it can get worse, if these others don't listen to us and our way of knowing God, then they are judged . . . by us.

A sure sign of knowing God, is humility. Those who know God are humble. Those who do not know God are invariably far too sure of themselves.

Who has beheld God's glory?

Tell it slant says Emily Dickinson:

*Tell all the Truth but tell it slant —
Success in Circuit lies;
Too bright for mind's infirm intent,
The Truth's superb surprise.
As Lightning to the Children eased,
With explanation kind;
The Truth must dazzle gradually,
Or every man be blind.*



Unsplash+ in collaboration with Joshua Earle

Nick Athanasiadis