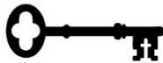




TO WORSHIP GOD,
to grow as disciples of Jesus,
TO CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER,
to take God's love to the world.



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

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAMILTON

February 4, 2024 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service

Minister – Rev. Dr. Nick Athanasiadis

Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes

Lector – Tom Sproule

A Warm Welcome to Worship at Central this morning!

* *Indicates standing, as you are able.*

PRELUDE *Fantasia in E Major*

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Thy Word

G. P. Telemann

M. Praetorius

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT – Sometimes A Healing Word Is Comfort

768

Words by P. Michaels, Music by G. Neumark

*Sometimes a healing word is comfort: easing the grieved or anxious heart,
giving assurance of our caring, treasuring each and every part.*

Refrain:

Come, break the silence! Let us tell the Word that makes us free and well.

*Sometimes a healing word will listen: hearing the voiceless into speech,
letting the pattern of the story, move us to learn what it can teach. Refrain*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God has invited us to come.

Congregation: **So we gather.**

God has spoken to the world.

So we listen.

God has given us glimpses of grace and mercy.

So we wait and watch, longing for healing, eager for peace.

God has been faithful to all generations.

**So we trust. And so we worship God,
our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.**

1. Oh worship the King, all glorious above;
oh gratefully sing God's power and God's love,
our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendour and girded with praise.

2. Oh tell of God's might, oh sing of God's grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is God's path on the wings of the storm.

3. The earth, with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old,
hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

4. Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
thy mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, De fender, Redeemer and Friend.

5. O measureless Might, unchangeable Love,
while angels delight to hymn thee above,
thy ransomed creation, in glory ablaze,
in true adoration shall sing to thy 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 - Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord Our Song

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GOD SPEAKS TO US

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 147:1-11 in the Red Book of Psalms, Refrain II

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.

SCRIPTURE READING (p. 667)

Isaiah 40:1-11 & 27-31

SERMON: *“Comfort, O Comfort My People”*

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* HYMN – On Eagle’s Wings

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THE OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERTORY *O Jesu Christ, Mein's Lebens Licht*

J. S. Bach

("O Jesus Christ, Light of My Life") from Cantata No. 118

*O Jesu Christ, mein's Lebens Licht,
Mein Hort, mein Trost, mein Zuversicht.
Auf Erden bin ich nur ein Gast,
Und drückt mich sehr der Sünden Last.*

*O Jesus Christ, light of my life,
my refuge, my comfort, my reassurance,
on earth I am only a guest
And the burden of sin presses down heavily upon me.*

* 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 – Fairest Lord Jesus

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* THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Postlude in C Major*

A. Claussmann

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).

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/

Come, let us sing to the Lord our song

FORNEY 9 8 8 9

C C/B Am G6 F G

1. Come, let us sing to the Lord our song;
 2. O thirs-ty soul, come drink at the well;
 3. You dwell a - mong us and cause us to pray, and
 4. Des-erts shall bloom and moun - tains shall sing

Em Am Am/G F G

we have stood si - lent - ly too long;
 God's liv - ing wa - ters will nev - er fail.
 walk with each oth - er fol - lowing your way;
 to the de - sire of all liv - ing things.

C C/B Am G6 Fmaj7 G

sure - ly the Lord de - serves our praise, so
 Sure - ly the Lord will help you to stand,
 our prec - ious bro - thers and sis - ters will grow
 Come, all you crea - tures, high and low;

Dm G Am Em F G C

joy - ful - ly thank God for our days.
 strength - ened and com - for - ted by God's hand.
 in the ful - fill - ing love they know.
 let your prais - es end - less - ly flow.

Words: Jim Strathdee (1941-) Music: Jim Strathdee (1941-); arrangement, Jean Strathdee (1944-)

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Psalm 91
You who dwell in the shelter /
On Eagle's Wings

ON EAGLE'S WINGS Irregular

Solo or choir G(sus#4) Dmaj7/F# G(sus#4)

1. You who dwell in the shel-ter of our God, who a-bide in this shad-ow for

Dmaj7/F# F Dm Bb Gm Asus4

life, say to the Lord: "My ref-uge, my Rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain A7 D Em A7

All "And I will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,

D D7 G A7 Bm Em F#m7 G6 A 7 D

make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand."

after last refrain (*Solo or choir*) A7 Bm7 Em F#m7 G6 (Em7) A7 D

and hold you, hold you in the palm of my hand."

Words: Psalm 91; paraphrase, Michael Joncas (1951-) Music: Michael Joncas (1951-)

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G(sus#4) Dmaj7/F#

2. The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and

G(sus#4) Dmaj7/F# F

fam-ine will bring you no fear: un-der God's wings your

Dm F Gm Asus4 D.S.

ref-uge, God's faith-ful-ness your shield.

D G(sus#4) Dmaj7/F#

3. You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the

G(sus#4) Dmaj7/F# F

ar-row that flies by day; though thou-sands fall a-

Dm F Gm Asus4 D.S.

bout you, near you it shall not come.

G(sus#4) Dmaj7/F#

4. For to God's an-gels is giv-en a com-mand to

G(sus#4) Dmaj7/F# F

guard you in all of your ways, up-on their hands they will

Gm Am Bb(maj9) Asus4 D.S.

bear you up, lest you dash your foot a-against a stone.

Fairest Lord Jesus

CRUSADER'S HYMN 5 6 9 5 5 8

E♭ /D Cm /B♭ A♭6 B♭7 E♭sus4-3 E♭ /D Cm /B♭ A♭6 B♭ E♭ /F

1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Lord of all cre - a - tion,
 2. Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the wood - lands,
 3. Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the moon - light,
 4. All fair - est beau - ty heav - en - ly and earth - ly,

E♭/G(B♭7/F E♭/G)A♭ B♭/A♭ E♭/G Fm6 E♭ A♭/C B♭7/D E♭/G B♭7 B♭sus4 - 3 /A♭

Je - sus, of God and Ma - ry the Son:
 robed in the ver - dure and bloom of spring.
 fair is the shim - mer - ing, star - ry sky:
 won - drous - ly, Je - sus, is found in thee;

Gm /F C/E C7 Fmsus Fm /G Fm /E♭ B♭/D B♭7 E♭sus(4-2 - 3)

thee will I cher - ish, thee will I hon - our,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines clear - er
 none can be near - er, fair - er or dear - er

Words: German, anonymous 1677; translation, Lilian Stevenson (1871-1960) Music: Silesian folk song; arrangement, James Hopkirk (1908-1972)

Words: translation, copyright © Oxford University Press Music: arrangement, copyright © the estate of James Hopkirk, 1938

E♭/D Cm E♭/G A♭6 E♭/B♭ B♭sus4 B♭7 E♭

O thou my soul's de - light and crown.
 he makes the sad - dest heart to sing.
 than all the heaven - ly host on high.
 than thou, my Sav - iour, art to me.

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.

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 Central Presbyterian Church's Land Acknowledgement

<https://www.cpchamilton.ca/land-acknowledgement/>



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

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



Central Presbyterian Church Calendar

- ~ Sunday, February 4, 10:30 a.m. **Sunday Worship Service**
- ~ Monday, February 5, 10 a.m.-noon **Hamilton Out of the Cold Café**
- ~ Tuesday, February 6, 10:00 a.m.- noon **Knit and Knatter Group**
- ~ Wednesday, February 7, 1:00 p.m. **Prime Time**
- ~ Thursday, February 7, 3:30-5:00 p.m. **Hamilton Out of the Cold Meals to Go**
- ~ Thursday, February 7, 7:30 p.m. **Choir Practice**
- ~ Sunday, February 11 after worship **Pancake Brunch**
- ~ Wednesday, February 14, 10:30 a.m. **Ash Wednesday Service~ Fellowship Gathering**
- ~ Saturday, February 17, 12:00–3:00 p.m. **Mission Committee-Hamilton Food Share Drive by**
- ~ Sunday, February 18, 10:30 a.m. **Mission Committee-Hamilton Food Share Collection**
- ~ Wednesday, February 21, 7:00 p.m. **Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East**
Hosted at First Unitarian Church of Hamilton
(170 Dundurn Street South)
- ~ Sunday, February 25 **Annual General Meeting**
- ~ Sunday, March 3, 3:00 p.m. **Chamber Music Concert: Quartetto Gelato**

All are invited to join together with the Wednesday Fellowship Group for a special Ash Wednesday Service and Fellowship time from 10:30 a.m. till noon on Wednesday, February 14, 2024.

Stewardship Moment



Like good stewards
of the manifold grace
of God,
serve one another
with whatever gift
each of you
has received.

1 Peter 4:10

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

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God (Isaiah. 40:1).

Prompts for Reflection



"Comfort, O comfort my people." Words which inspired Handel's *Messiah*, but more than this, they are a word from the Lord for his people, who need comfort even as parched ground needs rain. And maybe we are that parched ground. Isaiah was called to be a prophet during a very difficult time for his people. The People of Israel had been conquered by a power known as Babylon. Babylon was an empire, and tiny Israel was no match for it, so what hope was there for this tiny land and for these few people? Well, when we see no way God finds a way, and so Isaiah spoke in the name of God. God said, Isaiah, I want you to comfort my people, and Isaiah cried, but what should I tell them? Tell them that though the people are like grass that withers and like flowers that fade, God's word is constant and will stand forever. We can only receive these words in faith.

Nick Athanasiadis