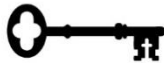




TO WORSHIP GOD,
to grow as disciples of Jesus,
TO CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER,
to take God's love to the world.



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

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAMILTON

March 10, 2024 10:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Lent Sunday Worship Service

Minister – Rev. Dr. Nick Athanasiadis

Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes

Call to Worship – Gustav Swanepoel

Lector – Jean Williams

Greeters – Alex Prince and Cathy Keith

A Warm Welcome to Worship at Central this morning!

* Indicates standing, as you are able.

PRELUDE *Morning Song*

F. Mendelssohn

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT – *O God, Whose Fire Lit The Stars*

287

- Words by H G. Stuempfle, Jr., Music by G. F. Handel, Arr. by D. Hurd

O God, whose fire lit the stars and set them in their course:

you are life's origin and end, the vast creation's source.

Come, touch us who were formed from dust and set our hearts ablaze

that life and breath may rise to you, a sacrifice of praise.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: As the weak realize their strength;

as the poor eat and are satisfied,

Congregation: God's love abides in us.

As the stranger finds a friend;

as the family offers forgiveness,

God's love abides in us.

As the ends of the earth know of Christ's grace,

God's love abides in us. (based on Psalm 22, 1 John 4)

HYMN – Thou Whose Almighty Word

291

1. Thou whose almighty word

chaos and darkness heard

and took their flight,

hear us, we humbly pray,

and where the gospel day

sheds not its glorious ray

Let There Be Light!

2. Saviour who came to bring

on thy redeeming wing

healing and sight,

health to the sick in mind,

sight to the inly blind,

now to all humankind

Let There Be Light!

3. Spirit of truth and love,
lifegiving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move o'er the waters' face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
Let There Be Light!

4. Blessed and holy Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the world, far and wide,
Let There Be Light!

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 - Unto the Hills Around

81

1. Unto the hills around do I lift up
my longing eyes:
oh whence for me shall my salvation come,
from whence arise?
From God the Lord doth come my certain aid,
from God the Lord who heaven and earth hath made.

2. He will not suffer that thy foot be moved:
safe shalt thou be.
No careless slumber shall his eyelids close,
who keepeth thee.
Behold, he sleepeth not, he slumbereth ne'er,
who keepeth Israel in his holy care.

3. Jehovah is himself thy keeper true,
thy changeless shade;
Jehovah thy defence on thy right hand
himself hath made,
and thee no sun by day shall ever smite;
no moon shall harm thee in the silent night.

4. From every evil shall he keep thy soul,
from every sin:
Jehovah shall preserve thy going out,
thy coming in.
Above thee watching, he whom we adore
shall keep thee henceforth, yea, forevermore.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 22:1-10 in the Red Book of Psalms, **Refrain I**

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 Job – selections from chapters 3 & 5-9 (Translation by Stephen Mitchell)

SERMON: *Contrasting Stories: Job and his Friends*

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* HYMN – Come, Ye Disconsolate

195

1. Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish;
come to the mer cy seat; fervently kneel;
here bring your wounded hearts; here tell your anguish:
earth has no sorrows that heaven cannot heal.

2. Joy of the desolate, light of the straying,
hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure!
here speaks the comforter, tenderly say ing,
earth has no sorrows that heaven cannot cure.

3. Here see the bread of life; see wa ters flowing
forth from the throne of God, pure from above:
come to the feast of love; come ever knowing
earth has no sorrows but heaven can remove.

THE OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERTORY *Jesu, Meek and Lowly*

E. Elgar, Words by Rev. H. Collins

*Jesu, meek and lowly,
Saviour, pure and holy, On Thy love relying, Hear me humbly crying.
Jesu, meek and lowly.*

*Prince of life and power, My salvation Tower,
On the Cross I view Thee, Calling sinners to Thee.*

*There behold me gazing, At the sight amazing;
Bending low before Thee, Helpless I adore Thee.*

*By that fount of blessing, Thy dear love expressing,
All my aching sadness Turn Thou into gladness.*

*Lord, in mercy guide me, Be Thou e'er beside me;
In Thy ways direct me, 'Neath Thy wings protect me. Amen.
Jesu, meek and lowly.*

* 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 (sung) 831

**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 debts,**

**As we forgive our debtors,
As we forgive our debtors,
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 -Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

290

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 BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Allegro Con Moto*

E. H. Sheppard

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.

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/

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).

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.

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/>

Please contact Sara for more information. The E-book version is available for purchase through major online retailers.



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

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/>

Central Presbyterian Church Calendar

~ Sunday, March 10, 10:30 a.m.	Sunday Worship Service
~ Monday, March 11, 10 a.m.-noon	Hamilton Out of the Cold Café
~ Tuesday, March 12, 10:00 a.m.- noon	Knit and Knatter Group
~ Wednesday, March 13, 10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Gathering
~ Wednesday, March 13, 1:00 p.m.	Prime Time online
~ Thursday, March 14, 3:30-5:00 p.m.	Hamilton Out of the Cold Meals to Go
~ Thursday, March 14, 7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
~ Sunday, March 17, 9:00 a.m.	Lent Study (Allan Room)
~ Sunday, March 24, 10:30 a.m.	Palm - Passion Sunday Worship Service
~ Tuesday, March 26, 7:30 p.m.	Central's Book Club (Allan Room)
~ Thursday, March 28, 7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Service
~ Friday, March 29, 7:00 p.m.	Good Friday Choir Concert
~ Sunday, March 31, 10:30 a.m.	Easter Sunday Worship - Christ is Risen!
~ Sunday, April 14, 10:30 a.m.	Rev. Cap. Zimmerman, Guest Preacher & Lunch
~ Saturday, April 20, 7:30 p.m.	The Knitting Pilgrim
~ Sunday, April 21, 3:00 p.m.	Music @ Central: Charlton String Quartet
~ Saturday, May 4	Spring Rummage Sale (Fellowship Hall)

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 Fربول

Office Administrator - Helena Bootsma

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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Holy Week

March 24, 10:30 A.M. Service of Worship Palm-Passion Sunday

All Ages Worship with Central choir, children and youth, & special guests the **Cantilon Chamber Choir**, widely recognized as one of Canada’s leading choral ensembles. Founded in 1999 by conductor, Heather Johnson, the choir of 33 singers ages 12-20 will perform compositions by Mozart, Schutz, Pergolesi and Faure – as we move liturgically from Palm Sunday into Passion Week.



March 28, 7:00 PM Service of Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday, Maundy from the Latin *Mandatum*, meaning commandment. Jesus said, *I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another*’ (John 13: 34-35).

This night is a time to remember Jesus’ vision of beloved community—to feed and be fed, to love and be loved. This night, we remember the events of Jesus’ last night with his disciples.



March 29, 7:00 P.M. Concert Featuring Howard Goodall’s “Eternal Light” Requiem

Concert presented by the Central Presbyterian Choir and Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Marcus Scholtes. Freewill offering at the door.

On this, a most faithful and a most fateful day in the long history of God's people, we reach the climax in the unfolding drama of the life and ministry of Jesus.



March 31, 10:30 A.M. Service of Worship

The Hamilton Brass Quintet

We celebrate the resurrection!

Early on that morning, the first witnesses tell us: their alarm subsided, their courage deepened, their trauma healed, and their amazement grew. They learned how to choose hope.



Prompts for Reflection

There is no one sight and no one insight, we are a human multitude in place and time. But we are also individuals. By provoking issues and questions as forcefully as it does, the book of Job may lead us to self-discovery and, thereby, to knowledge of God far from the beaten path.

Such a discovery may be painful.

It certainly was so for Job. His discourse with friends, set in stunning poetic form, plunges the reader into a whirlpool of torment, raising disturbing questions about God's way and humanity's place in creation. Job not only unnerved his friends and raised their moral ire, but continues today to disturb any comfortable notions about God and the moral life.

Word of the Day:

*I was whole—he ripped apart,
chewed my body to pulp.*

*He set me up as a target;
his arrows tore through my flesh.*

*He hacked my liver to pieces;
he poured my gall on the ground . . .
he demolished my inmost walls*

(Job 16:12-14 – Stephen Mitchell translation,



William Blake, *Job rebuked by his friends*

Nick Athanasiadis