

Good Friday

Service of the Nails



April 18th, 2025, 10:30 am

Central Presbyterian Church
165 Charlton Ave. W., Hamilton, ON

Good Friday Service of the Nails
Minister – Rev. Lois Whitwell
Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes
Readers: Shirley Fredlander, Sara Traficante, Judy Johnson,
Beth McKay Reilly, Ramona Starkey, Lynn DeGrace
A Warm Welcome to Worship at Central this morning.

* *Indicates standing, as you are able.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME and INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

The service is known as the "Service of The Nails." It is a series of readings, responses, and silent reflection and prayer designed to help us enter more deeply into the meaning of Good Friday. Everyone is requested to take a nail from the basket, if they do not have one yet, and to keep it with them.

Let us now prepare to worship our God.....

THE APPROACH

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 52:13-15

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you**

Leader: See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him --so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals-- so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

* **HYMN – Oh Come and Mourn With Me Awhile**

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1. Oh come and mourn with me awhile;
oh come ye to the Saviour's side;
oh come, together let us mourn;
Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.

2. Have we no tears to shed for him,
while soldiers scoff and foes deride?
Ah! look how patiently he hangs:
Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.

3. Seven times he spoke, seven words of love,
and all three hours his silence cried,
'Forgive: they know not what they do.'
Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.

4. O love of God! O human sin!
In this dread act your strength is tried,
and victory remains with love:
for Christ, our Lord, is crucified.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Leader: Let us pray.

People: O merciful God, you did not spare your only Son, but offered him up for us all, that he might bear our sins upon the cross. Grant that we might so examine ourselves that we realize our own sinfulness, so great as to spiritually crucify him anew. Help us to recognize those nails which we drive into his cross today, and transform us into more faithful disciples in his name. Amen.

THE NAILS OF THE CROSS

THE NAIL OF PRIDE

Mark 12:38-40

Meditation and Prayer (beginning with silence)

Leader: O God - help us consider our own pride and where it leads.

**People: O God - do not let us deceive ourselves.
Our pride hurts us and creates walls between us and others.**

Leader: O God, we know too that our pride hurts you.

THE NAIL OF BETRAYAL

Matthew 26:47-56

Meditation and Prayer (beginning with silence)

Leader: O God - help us consider how we betray others, how we abandon them in their time of need, how we think of ourselves first.

**People: O God - do not let us deceive ourselves.
Our acts of betrayal hurt us and create walls between us and others.**

Leader: O God, we know too that our betrayal hurts you.

THE NAIL OF ENVY

Matthew 20:20-28

Meditation and Prayer (beginning with silence)

Leader: O God - help us consider how we envy others, how we desire more than we receive and seek to influence and rule over others.

**People: O God - do not let us deceive ourselves.
Our envy hurts us and creates walls between us and others.**

Leader: O God, we know too that our envy hurts you.

THE NAIL OF INDECISION

Matthew 27:20-24

Meditation and Prayer (beginning with silence)

Leader: O God - help us consider how we waver, how we seek to avoid responsibility and to blame others for our actions.

People: O God - do not let us deceive ourselves.

Our indecision hurts us and creates walls between us and others.

Leader: O God, we know too that our indecision hurts you.

THE NAIL OF CRUELTY

Matthew 27:27-31, 39-42, 45-48

Meditation and Prayer (beginning with silence)

Leader: O God - help us consider how we are cruel to others, how we malign and slander others and add to the evil that comes upon them.

People: O God - do not let us deceive ourselves.

Our cruelty hurts us and creates walls between us and others.

Leader: O God, we know too that our cruelty hurts you.

THE NAIL OF HATRED

Luke 6:22, 32-35

* HYMN – Man Of Sorrows

210

1. Man of sorrows, wondrous name
for the Son of God who came
ruined sinners to reclaim:
Hallelujah! Gracious Saviour!

2. Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
in my place condemned he stood,
sealed my pardon with his blood:
Hallelujah! Loving Saviour!

3. Guilty, helpless, lost were we;
spotless Lamb of God was he;
full atonement can it be?
Hallelujah! Blessed Saviour!

4. Lifted up he was to die,
'It is finished' was his cry,
now in heaven exalted high:
Hallelujah! Mighty Saviour!

5. When Christ comes, our glorious
King,
all the ransomed home to bring,
then anew this song we'll sing:
Hallelujah! Wondrous Saviour!

Meditation and Prayer (beginning with silence)

Leader: O God - help us consider how we show hate to others, how we fail to care for others and make distinctions among them.

**People: O God - do not let us deceive ourselves.
Our hatred hurts us and creates walls between us and others.**

Leader: O God, we know too that our hatred hurts you.

NAILS

THE RESPONSE

ACT OF CONFESSION

Isaiah 53:4-6

Leader: Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted.

People: He was wounded for our transgressions and he was bruised for our iniquities. Upon him was the chastisement that made us whole.

Leader: All we like sheep have gone astray; each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid upon him the iniquity of us all.

THE PROMISE OF MERCY

Isaiah 53:7-13

Leader: He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

People: By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.

Leader: They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

People: Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

Leader: Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

People: The righteous one, God's servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

Leader: Therefore, I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

OFFERING

* HYMN – Jesus, Remember Me

206

Jesus, remember me when you come in to your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come in to your kingdom.

PRAYER

Leader: Lord God, you have given us everything.

People: You have not held anything back, not even your only begotten son.

Leader: With humble hearts we thank you.

People: In new hope we offer to you and for the work of salvation our every gift and our very selves.

Leader: Be pleased, O God, in the name of Jesus, to accept all that we offer at this time. Look upon the intentions of our hearts. Hear our prayers and in your love answer. Lord we each come forward to bring to you our concerns, our hopes, our sins, here represented by the nail that we lay at the foot of the cross.....

..... (silent prayer)

Leader: We ask all these things through him who taught us to pray to you, saying:

**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**

* HYMN – O Sacred Head, Sore Wounded

239

1. O sacred head, sore wounded,
with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded
with thorns, thine only crown;
how art thou pale with anguish,
with sore abuse and scorn;
how does that visage languish
which once was bright as morn.

2. What thou, my Lord, hast suffered
was all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression,
but thine the deadly pain;
lo, here I fall, my Saviour;
'tis I deserve thy place;
look on me with thy favour;
oh grant to me thy grace.

BENEDICTION

Go to dark Gethsemane

REDHEAD NO. 76 777777

Eb Bb Eb Ab Eb Cm Bb Eb
 1. Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, you that feel the
 2. Fol - low to the judge - ment hall; see him beat - en,
 3. Climb to Cal - vary's mourn - ful site: there the Lord of

Ab6 Bb Eb Eb Cm Bb Eb Ab Fm6/Ab Eb
 tempt - er's power; your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
 bound, ar - rained; pa - tient - ly he bears it all,
 glo - ry reigns; there, through weak - ness, wins the fight,

/G Eb Bb/D Gm Eb6 F 7 Bb Eb/G Fm6 Eb
 watch with him one bit - ter hour. From his grief turn
 all our pain his soul sus - tained. Shun not suf - fering,
 o - ver sin our vic - tory gains. "It is fin - ished!"

Ab Eb /G Fm6 Eb Fm/Ab Eb/Bb Bb Eb
 not a - way; learn of Je - sus Christ to pray.
 shame or loss; learn of Christ to bear the cross.
 hear him cry; there, in Christ, we dare to die.

Words: James Montgomery (1771–1854); revision, Andrew Donaldson (1951–)

Music: Richard Redhead (1820–1901)

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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 the Rev. Lois Whitwell (905-522-9098 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). CPC Statement of Welcome: www.cpchamilton.ca/welcome-statement/

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/



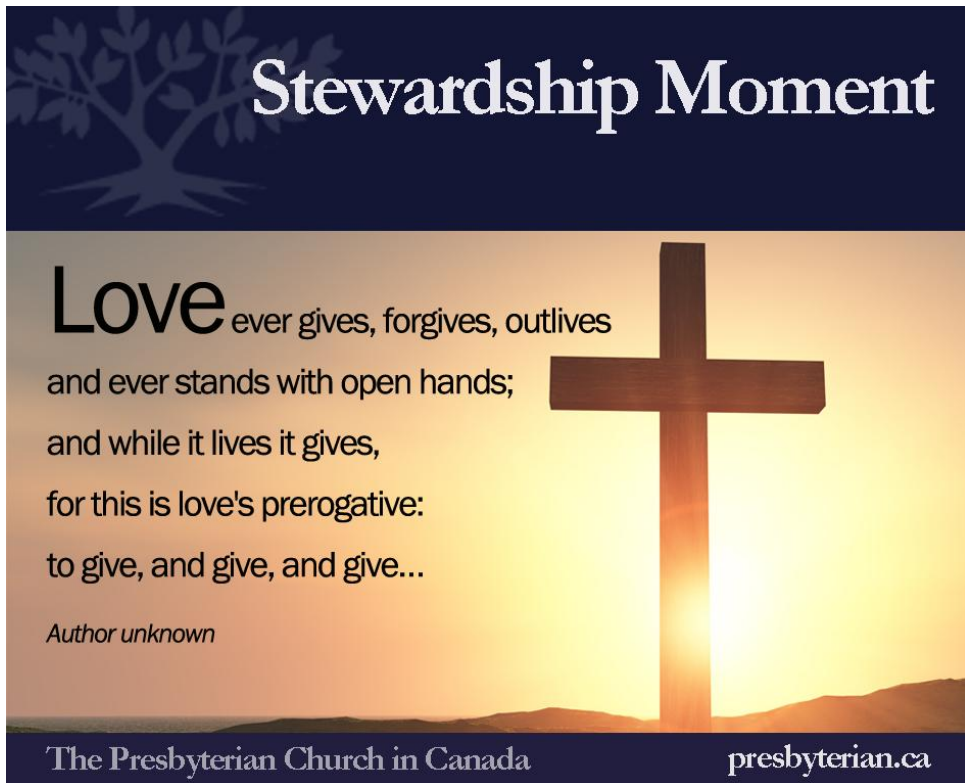
Congregational Givings

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, to bookkeeper@cpchamilton.ca or send a cheque.

Please make sure to include your envelope number or mailing address for tax receipt purposes. For ways to give, visit cpchamilton.ca/giving



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/>



Holy Week

April 18

10:30 A.M. Good Friday Service of Worship and Reflection

7:00 P.M. Good Friday Choir Concert: Central Choir and soloists perform the beloved and passionate Requiem by W. A. Mozart.

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.

April 20, 10:30 A.M. Easter Sunday Service of Worship

We celebrate the resurrection!

Featuring The Hamilton Brass Quintet

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.



*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
Nursery and Faith Finders Coordinator – Kristel Forcier
Bookkeeper – Michelle Frebold
Office Administrator – Helena Bootsma
Custodian – David Lewington
Nursery Coordinator – Brenda Ziemann
Sunday & Special Event Custodian – Geoff French*

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