



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

September 7, 2025 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Service of Worship and Blessing of the Backpacks



Worship Leader – Sara Traficante

Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes

Call to Worship – Kene Umezio

Lector – Judy Johnson

Greeters – Judy Johnson & Shirley Fredlander

A Warm Welcome to Worship at Central this morning!

* Indicates standing, as you are able.

PRELUDE *Two Arias in G Major*

G. P. Telemann

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT *Lead Me, Jesus; I Will Follow*

646

*Lead me, Jesus; I will follow, down the dusty pathways, all along the sea.
Teach me, Jesus, to be loving; your disciple I will be.*

*Open my eyes that I may see;
I will serve you: your disciple I will be.*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Joy comes to those who follow God's ways.

People: We will follow the Lord with joyful hearts!

Those who follow the Lord are like trees planted by the river,
bearing fruit each season.

May our lives be fruitful and blessed by God!

Worship the Lord who leads us to joy and abundance.

Let us worship God now and throughout all our days.

* HYMN – You Are Before Me, Lord

101 (see pg. 6)

PRAYER OF ADORATION, CONFESSION AND 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**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* HYMN – Let Us A Build A House

(see pg. 7)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

This morning, we will be following our tradition of blessing the backpacks as students get ready for back-to-school. Following the Time with the Children, a program for children SK-Grade 8 will be available in the downstairs HUB area. Children will return to the Sanctuary during the last hymn.

Staffed nursery is available for our young ones up to age 4 throughout the entire service.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Leader: God, bless this school year, this new season,
this chance to discover the world anew.

**People: We sense the anticipation of something about to happen,
of all our preparation and worry and excitement
for new friendships and challenges and opportunities.**

God, bless these backpacks,
these symbols of fresh beginning.

**And bless every child who carries what they have,
as all the new questions rise up in their hearts and minds.**

God, bless their new environment and everyone in it.

The teachers and staff who ready their classrooms,
creating opportunities for learning and belonging.

The administrators and school staff as they stretch hearts and minds,
and feel their own stretching too.

**The parents and caregivers and church family who carry the weight
of loving, protecting, and raising these kids.**

God, bless all who begin this journey of a new year,

With every step they take, may they feel your presence
and hear you say, "I love you. I am with you. You are loved."

You are loved. Each and every one.

(adapted from Kate Bowler, Blessing of the Backpacks)

GOD SPEAKS TO US

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 139:1-18 in the Red Book of Psalms, **Refrain III**

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 14:25-33 (pg. 78)

SERMON: *Untethered Discipleship*

MEDITATION MINUTE

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* HYMN – Take Up Your Cross

211

1. Take up your cross, the Saviour said,
if my disciple you would be;
deny yourself, the world forsake,
and humbly follow after me.
2. Take up your cross; let not its weight
fill frightened spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear your spirit up,
and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.
3. Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
nor let your foolish pride rebel:
for you the Saviour bore the cross,
to save your soul from death and hell.
4. Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength,
and every danger calmly brave;
'twill guide you to a heavenly home,
and lead to victory o'er the grave.
5. Take up your cross and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down,
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

THE OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERTORY *O Lord, Thy Word Endureth*

C. Tye

*O Lord, Thy word endureth forever in Heav'n:
Thy truth also remaineth from one generation to another.
Thou hast laid the foundations of the earth, and it abideth.
They continue this day according to Thine ordinance, for all things serve Thee.
Hallelujah!*

* THE DOXOLOGY AND PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below:
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost!*

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

GOD SENDS US

* HYMN - Will You Come And Follow Me

634 (see pgs. 8-9)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *God Is Our Refuge And Strength*

L. Smith

If you're new here, we rejoice that you've been led to "make a joyful noise to the Lord" with us today. Together, we are God's people. You need to know upfront though that none of us who gather here are perfect - and we don't always get it right, but we're doing our best to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. You're welcome to join us: there's a place for you here.

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).

You are before me, Lord

SURSUM CORDA 10 10 10 10

Unison

D G Bm A D Bm/D A/C#

1. You are be - fore me, Lord; you are be - hind, and o - ver
 2. Then from your Spir - it where, Lord, shall I go, and from your
 3. If I should take my flight in - to the dawn, if I should
 4. If I should say, "Let dark - ness cov - er me, and I shall
 5. Search me, O God, search me and know my heart: try me, O

Bm /D F#m E A D/F# (G A Bm)

me you have spread out your hand; such knowl - edge is too
 pres - ence where, Lord, shall I fly? If I as - cend to
 dwell on o - cean's far - thest shore, your might - y hand will
 hide with - in the veil of night," sure - ly the dark - ness
 God, my mind and spir - it try; keep me from an - y

Em (Bm G A) F#m Bm F#m G (Bm Em) A D

won - der - ful for me, too high to grasp, too great to un - der - stand.
 heav - en you are there, and still are with me if in hell I lie.
 rest up - on me still, and your right hand will guard me ev - er - more.
 is not dark to you: the night is as the day, the dark - ness, light.
 path that gives you pain, and lead me in the ev - er - last - ing way.

Em (Bm G A) F#m Bm F#m G (Bm Em) A D

Words: Psalm 139; paraphrase, Ian Pitt-Watson (1923-1995) Music: Alfred Morton Smith (1879-1971)

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Let Us a Build a House

(All Are Welcome)

Marty Haugen



1.Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly live, a
2.Let us build a house where pro-phets speak and words are strong and true, where
3.Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter wine and wheat, a

5



place where saints and chil - dren tell how hearts learn to for - give. Built of
all God's chil-dren dare to seek to dream God's reign a - new. Here the
ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground, where peace and just-tice meet. Here the

9



hope and dreams and vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
cross shall stand as wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
love of God, through Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we

13



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions: All are wel - come,
one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
share in Christ the feast that feeds us:

16



All are wel - come, All are wel - come, in this place.

Discipleship

634

Will you come and follow me

KELVINGROVE 7676776

Unison F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus4 - 3

1. Will you come and fol - low me
2. Will you leave your-self be - hind if I but call your name?
3. Will you let the blind-ed see
4. Will you love the "you" you hide
5. Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

F C7 Dm Gm7 (C11) F

Will you go where you don't know
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris-oners free
Will you quell the fear in - side
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

Gm7 Bb Am7 Bb6 Csus4 - 3

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

Words: Iona Community (Scotland) Music: Scottish traditional; arrangement John L. Bell (1949-)

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F C7 Dm Gm7 C11 F

will you let my life be grown
 Will you let me an - swer prayer
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?
 through my sight and touch and sound
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Status of the Search for the New Minister:

We're happy to let everyone know that the Rev. Hannah Lovaglio and her family were able to secure housing in the Dundas area, and their move to Canada has taken place. Rev. Hannah's official start date here at Central was September 1st, but she is currently on vacation for a couple of weeks to give the family time to get settled. Rev. Hannah will begin office hours in mid-September, and her first Sunday in the pulpit will be on September 21st. The induction service that was initially planned for the afternoon of the 21st had to be postponed due to her needing to fulfill some PCC requirements. That is being arranged by a Presbytery committee. At the Presbytery meeting next Tuesday evening (being held at St. Cuthbert's PC on Bond Street, Hamilton @ 7:00 pm), Rev. Hannah will be received into the PCC, welcomed to the Hamilton Presbytery and given permission to begin her duties as the minister of Central. Then, once her requirements have been fulfilled, her induction service will be rescheduled. In the meantime, Rev. Philip Wilson will remain as our Interim Moderator until Rev. Hannah is officially inducted.

Welcome Luncheon for Rev. Hannah Lovaglio
Sunday September 21st

We're delighted to give a hearty Central welcome to Rev. Hannah, her husband, Michael, and their two sons. A special luncheon will be held in the Fellowship Hall following the Sunday service.



PLEASE JOIN US... ALL ARE WELCOME!

There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall for anyone who would like to contribute towards food.

Any questions, please contact Gwynneth Simpson at davidhsimpson@sympatico.ca or 905-870-0860.

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. 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.



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/statement-of-welcome-and-inclusion/

Central Presbyterian Church Calendar

- ~ Sunday, September 7, 10:30 a.m. **Service of Worship – Sara Traficante preaching**
- **Blessing of the Backpacks**
- ~ Wednesday, September 10, 3:00-7:00 p.m. **Durand Market** (Forecourt)
- ~ Thursday, September 11, 7:30-9:30 p.m. **Central Choir Rehearsal**
- ~ Sunday, September 14, 10:30 a.m. **Service of Worship – Rev. Dr. Philip Wilson preaching**
- ~ Tuesday, September 16, 10:00 a.m.-noon **Knit & Knatter Group** (Guild Room)
- ~ Sunday, September 21, 10:30 a.m. **Service of Worship – Rev. Hannah Lovaglio preaching**
- ~ Sunday, September 21 after worship **Welcome Luncheon for Rev. Hannah Lovaglio & family**
- ~ Sunday, October 5, 3:00 p.m. **Music@Central: Andromeda Duo**

Knit & Knatter Invitation: We welcome all who are interested in joining Central's knitting group. Needles and yarn are provided. We will meet again every Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, to knit and/or chat. For more information contact Jean Williams.

For any pastoral concerns, please contact the 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.

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/>

***As you leave this place today,
you're reminded that no matter
who you are,
or what your past may be,
you are a beloved child of the
Living God.***

***As you now live your life
from day to day,
don't forget who
– and whose, you are;
So that you may indeed be light
and salt to this world.***

In the name of Jesus the Christ.

Stewardship Moment



**Stewardship is the way
we love God
and neighbor
with our
whole lives,
not just our wallets.**

Charles Lane and Grace Pomroy

Minister – The Rev. Hannah Lovaglio
Interim Moderator – The Rev. Dr. Philip Wilson
Director of Pastoral Care – The Rev. Lois Whitwell
Minister Emeritus – The Rev. Dr. Alan M. McPherson
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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