



Candlelight Carol Service

December 14, 2025

7:00 p.m.

O come let us adore Him



Candlelight Carol Service

presented by the choir of

Central Presbyterian Church

165 Charlton Ave. W., Hamilton, Ontario
Sunday, December 14, 2025 ~ 7:00 p.m.

* *Indicates standing, as you are able.*

PRELUDE MUSIC: *Lo How a Rose, Bring a Torch Jeanette Isabella, In the Bleak Midwinter*

- Arr. by D. Werden

* **PROCESSIONAL CAROL:** O Come, All Ye Faithful

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1. Oh come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant;
oh come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him,
born the King of angels:

Refrain: Oh come, let us adore him;
oh come, let us adore him;
oh come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

2. God of God, Light of light,
born unto Mary, the virgin blest,
very God, begotten, not created: *Refrain*

3. See how the shepherds,
summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks draw nigh
with holy fear; we too will thither
bend our joyful footsteps: *Refrain*

4. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
'Glory to God in the highest!' *Refrain*

5. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

THE BIDDING AND PRAYER

Rev. Hannah Lovaglio

**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.**

ANTHEM: *Angels Tell The Christmas Story* - M. Archer

*Angels tell the Christmas story, in excelsis gloria,
How our Lord has come from glory, in excelsis gloria,
Heav'n is filled with joyful singing, in excelsis gloria,
Heav'nly bells for ever ringing, in excelsis gloria,*

*Shepherds with their sheep abiding, in excelsis gloria,
Hurry now to tell the tiding, in excelsis gloria,
See the manger where he's lying, in excelsis gloria,
Holy stranger, death defying, in excelsis gloria,*

*Wise men by the bright star guided, in excelsis gloria,
Gifts most rare they have provided, in excelsis gloria,
Now before the Saviour bending, in excelsis gloria,
Homage, praise, and worship blending, in excelsis gloria,*

*Gather all the world before him, in excelsis gloria,
Come to worship and adore him, in excelsis gloria,
Hail the King who brings salvation, in excelsis gloria,
Peace and joy to ev'ry nation, in excelsis gloria.*

THE FIRST LESSON ~ Genesis 3: 8-15

Reader: Chris Allen

"The consequences of Adam's sin."

* **CAROL:** Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel

122 vs. 1, 3, 7

1. Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lowly exile here,
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Refrain:
Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.

3. Oh come, thou Wisdom from on high,
and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show,
and cause us in her ways to go. *Refrain*

7. Oh come, desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart, one mind;
Bid envy, strife and discord cease,
And be thyself our source of peace. *Refrain*

THE SECOND LESSON ~ Genesis 22: 15-18

Reader: Chris Allen

"God promises Abraham in his seed all nations shall be blessed."

ANTHEM: *Scots Nativity* - A. Bullard

*This day to you is born a child Of Mary meek, the Virgin mild: That blessed bairn so loving and kind, Shall now rejoice both heart and mind
Balow, lammy, baloo, balow.*

*And now shall Mary's little boy Forever be our hope and joy;
Eternal be his reign, his earth, Rejoice then all people, for this holy birth;
Balow, lammy, baloo, balow.*

*Sleep gently, sweet Jesus, and know no fear,
Thy subjects adoring watch over thee here;
God's angels and shepherds, and wisemen and Virgin, Thy guardians all;
Balow, lammy, baloo, balow.*

THE THIRD LESSON ~ Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Reader: Neto Umezie

"The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour."

MUSICAL INTERLUDE: *Lo, How A Rose* - M. Praetorius

THE FOURTH LESSON ~ Micah 5: 2-4

Reader: Chris Allen

"The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem."

* **CAROL:** In The Bleak Midwinter

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1. In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan;
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.
2. Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall welcome him when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.
3. Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
but his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.
4. What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

"The angel Gabriel visits Mary."

ANTHEM: *Torches* - J. Joubert

*Torches, torches, run with torches All the way to Bethlehem!
Christ is born and now lies sleeping: come and sing your song to him!*

*Ah, Ro-ro, Ro-ro, my baby, Ah, Ro-ro, my love, Ro-ro:
Sleep you well, my heart's own darling, While we sing you our Ro-ro.*

*Sing, my friends, and make you merry, Joy and mirth and joy again:
Lo, he lives, the King of heaven, Now and evermore. Amen.*

THE SIXTH LESSON ~ Luke 2: 1, 3-7

Reader: Sara Traficante

"Luke tells of the birth of Jesus."

ANTHEM: *Do You Hear What I Hear* - N. Regney and G. Shayne, Arr. by E. Crocker

*Said the night wind to the little lamb, do you see what I see?
'Way up in the sky, little lamb, do you see what I see?
A star, a star, dancing in the night, with a tail as big as a kite.*

*Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy, do you hear what I hear?
Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy, do you hear what I hear?
A song, a song, high above the tree, with a voice as big as the sea.*

*Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king, do you know what I know?
In your palace warm, mighty king, do you know what I know?
A child, a child, shivers in the cold, let us bring him silver and gold.*

*Said the king to the people ev'rywhere, listen to what I say!
Pray for peace, people ev'ewhere. Listen to what I say!
A child, a child, sleeping in the night, He will bring us goodness and light.
He will bring us goodness and light!*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Winter" from *The Four Seasons* - A. Vivaldi

V. 1 Solo: Ramona Starkey

*1. Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.*

3. and our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love,
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heaven above,
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

Vs. 2-4 All

2. Christ came down to earth from heaven,
who is God and Lord of all,
sheltered by a humble stable,
cradled in a cattle stall:
with the poor, oppressed and lowly,
lived on earth our Saviour holy,

4. Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
there God's children gather round,
bright like stars, with glory crowned.

THE SEVENTH LESSON ~ Luke 2: 8-16

Reader: Caspian Sandor

"The shepherds go to the manger."

ANTHEM *The Lamb* - J. Tavener

*Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee?
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed By the stream and o'er the mead;*

*Gave thee clothing of delight, Softest clothing, woolly, bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice, Making all the vales rejoice?*

*Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee?
Little Lamb, I'll tell thee: He is called by thy name, For he calls himself a Lamb.*

*He is meek, and he is mild; He became a little child.
I, a child, and thou a lamb, We are called by his name.
Little Lamb, God bless thee! Little Lamb, God bless thee!*

THE EIGHTH LESSON ~ Matthew 2: 1-11

Reader: Rev. Lois Whitwell

"The wise men are led by the star to Jesus."

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

2. Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
the babe, the son of Mary.

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high;
the virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary.

THE NINTH LESSON ~ John 1:1-14

Reader: Rev. Hannah Lovaglio

"The Gospel of John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation."

ANTHEM: *What Sweeter Music* - J. Rutter

*What sweeter music can we bring Than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heav'nly King? Awake the voice! Awake the string!
Dark and dull night, fly hence away, And give the honour to this day
That see December turn'd to May.*

*Why does the chilling winter's morn Smile, like a field beset with corn?
Or smell like a meadow newly shorn Thus on the sudden? Come and see
The cause, why things thus fragrant be: 'Tis he is born, whose quick'ning birth
Gives life and lustre, public mirth, To heaven and the underearth?*

*We see him come, and know him ours, Who, which his sunshine and his show'rs,
Turns the patient ground to flow'rs, turns all the patient ground to flow'rs.
The darling of the world is come, And fit it is, we find a room To welcome him.*

*The nobler part of all the house here, is the heart, Which we will give him;
And bequeath This holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do him honour; who's our King, And Lord of all this revelling.*

*What sweeter music can we bring Than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heav'nly King, the birth of this our heav'nly King.*

ANTHEM: *Past Three O'Clock* - Trad. Arr. by C. Wood

Refrain:

Past three o'clock, And a cold, frosty morning:

Past three o'clock: Good morrow, masters all!

1. *Born is a Baby, Gentle as may be, Son of th' eternal Father supernal. Refrain*
2. *Seraph quire singeth, Angel bell ringeth: Hark how they rime it, Time it and chime it! Refrain*
3. *Mid earth rejoices Hearing such voices Ne' ertofores so well Carolling 'Nowell'. Refrain*
4. *Cheese from the dairy Bring they for Mary, And, not for money, Butter and honey. Refrain*
5. *Light out of star-land Leadeth from far land Princes to meet him, Worship and greet him. Refrain*
6. *Myrrh from full coffer, Incense they offer; Nor is the golden Nugget withholden. Refrain*

* **RECESSIONAL CAROL:** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

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1. *Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the new-born King, peace on earth and mercy mind, God and sinners reconciled. Joyful, all ye nations rise; join the triumph of the skies; with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem."*

Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King.

2. *Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail the incarnate deity! Pleased on earth with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Refrain*

3. *Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild, he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise the lost of earth, born to give us second birth. Refrain*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *A Carol Fantasy* - J. Iveson



~ A special thank you to the participants in tonight's service ~

The Choir of Central Presbyterian Church

Under the direction of Dr. Marcus Scholtes, Central's *Director of Music Ministries*

Soprano

Jessie-Ann Bradshaw
Linie Broer
Johanna de Bruin
Christy Cummings
Sue Dunlop
Paula Grove
Monica Kim
Kasia Konstanty
Emma Reilly McKay
Caroleen Molenaar
Marilyn Repchuck
Deborah Szabo
Christine Tiller

Tenor

Hubert de Bruin
Jim Jones
Gustav Swanepoel
Tony Heida
Peter Scholtens
Brenda Ziemann

Hamilton Brass Quintet

Michael Fedyshyn, Trumpet
Luise Heyerhoff, Trumpet
Micajah Sturgess, Horn
Megan Hodge, Trombone
Jen Stephen, Tuba

Bass

Michael Davis
Sam Hogeterp
Steve Pierre
Jim Reilly
Jeremy Sandor
Jonathan Scholtens

Alto

Emily Gayle Aitken
Diana Dwerryhouse
Nancy Dykstra
Judy Lindeman
Beth Mackay Reilly
Christine Sandor
Hannah Scholtens
Nicole Smith
Ramona Starkey
Janet Warren
Katie Weresch
Kristie Wiedenfeld

Organ

Stephen Boda

Charlton String Quartet

Marcus Scholtes, Violin
Sharon Lee, Violin
Elspeth Thomson, Viola
Kirk Starkey, Cello

Readers: Chris Allen, Neto Umezic, Sara Traficante, Caspian Sandor

Central's Ministers: Rev. Lois Whitwell, Rev. Hannah Lovaglio



Welcome to Central this evening!

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 let Helena know (helena@cpchamilton.ca or 905-522-9098 ext. 0).

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!

You can choose to support this good work by placing a gift on the offering plate, through pre-authorized remittance (PAR), donating online, via Interac E-Transfer or cheque. Please send to bookkeeper@cpchamilton.ca, include your envelope # or mailing address for tax receipt purposes. For ways to give, visit cpchamilton.ca/giving



*The OFFERING this evening is in support
of the Music Ministry of Central Presbyterian Church*

Stewardship Moments: Inspiring Generosity

**And now, our God, we give
thanks to you, and praise
your glorious name.**

1 Chronicles 29:13

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 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 marcus@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 the above Land Acknowledgement:

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

draw **NEAR** *God is Here*

Sunday, November 30

10:30 A.M. Worship | The Candle of Hope & Communion

Sunday, December 7

10:30 A.M. Worship | The Candle of Peace

Sunday, December 14

10:30 A.M. Worship | The Candle of Joy

7:00 P.M. Candlelight Carol Service

**Featuring Hamilton Brass Quintet/Central Youth Choir
Charlton String Quartet/Central and Friends Choir**

Sunday, December 21

**10:30 A.M. Worship | The Candle of Love
& Children's Christmas Pageant**

Thursday, December 24

8:00 P.M. Worship with Candlelight & Communion

**Advent & Christmas with
Central Presbyterian Church**

165 Charlton Ave. W | Hamilton, ON
905-522-9098 | cpchamilton.ca



*Minister – The Rev. Hannah Lovaglio
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 Frebald
Office Administrator – Helena Bootsma
Custodian – David Lewington
Nursery Coordinator – Brenda Ziemann
Sunday & Special Event Custodian – Geoff French*

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www.cpchamilton.ca

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