



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

January 4, 2026 10:30 a.m.

In Memoriam Sunday Worship Service

Minister – Rev. Hannah Lovaglio

Minister – Rev. Lois Whitwell

Organist – Emile Swanepoel

Lector – Dr. Hubert DeBruin

Greeters – Jim & Myrna Evel

A Warm Welcome to Worship at Central this morning!

* *Indicates standing, as you are able.*

PRELUDE *Sinfonia from BWV156*

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT *Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness*

174

*Fear not to enter God's courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine;
truth in its beauty and love in its tenderness:
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.*

*Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
bow down in reverence, God's glory proclaim;
gold of obedience and incense of lowliness
bring now, adoring the Lord's holy name.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Light! Light, light and more light!
Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of God has risen upon you.

**Congregation: Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.**

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem,
wise men came from the East, saying:
Where is he who is born king of the Jews?

**For we have seen his star in the East,
and have come to worship him.**

The wonderful light of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you. — Bruce Prewer

* HYMN – As With Gladness Men Of Old

172

1. As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright:
so, most gracious Lord, may we
ever more be led to thee.

2. As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour, to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before
thee, whom heaven and earth adore,
so may we with willing feet
ever seek thy mercy seat.

3. As they offered gifts most rare
at thy cradle rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.

4. Holy Jesus, every day
keep us in the narrow way,
and when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds of glory hide.

5. In that heavenly country bright
need they no created light:
thou its light, its joy, its crown,
thou its sun which goes not down;
there forever may we sing
hallelujahs to our King.

PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

* HYMN – Precious Lord, Take My Hand

675 (see pg. 10)

IN MEMORIAM

Led by Rev. Lois Whitwell

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

INTRODUCTION TO 'IN MEMORIAM'

We remember today those we love who have died.

We remember:

'In Memoriam' 2025

*Earle Bean, Lorene Bean, Richard Bethune, Gloria Bissell, Patricia Boothe,
Bryant Boyko, David Carey, Mary Lou Collett, Margery Cuddie,
Sara Cymbalisty, Christiane Gisevius, C. Wallace Jacques, Colleen Kurtz,
John Lee, Janet Lockwood, Kathleen (Kay) Lumsden, Mark Martin,
Robert Mitchell, Jack Oosterveld, Nancy Rundle, Evelyn Saynor,
John Healdon Starkey, Elaine Sweenie, Reginald Whynott*

LIGHTING MEMORIAL CANDLES

We remember



A LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

In the rising of the sun and its going down,
we will remember them.

In the blowing of the wind and the chill of winter,
we will remember them.

In the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring,
we will remember them.

In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,
we will remember them.

In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn,
we will remember them.

In the beginning of the year and when it ends,
we will remember them.

When we are weary and in the need of strength
we will remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart,
we will remember them.

When we have joys we yearn to share,
we will remember them.

So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now part of us as
we remember them. (Author unknown)

Prayer:

Tell them, God how much we love them,
How much we miss them.

Tell them we carry their stories in our lives.

Today we rejoice that Jesus was born and that he lived and died and is risen
And that you are with us the light of the world.

Today we trust you, Jesus, that there is life after death

And that you will always be with us,

Loving us and leading us home.

Glory be to God, Creator, Redeemer and Holy Spirit.

Amen

Parts Adapted for Epiphany from Saying Goodbye Ruth Burgess

GOD SPEAKS TO US

RESPONSIVE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

**For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.**

Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

**Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.**

Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

**A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.**

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

* HYMN – We Three Kings

173

1. We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Refrain:
O star of wonder, star of light,
star of royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign. *(Refrain)*

3. Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a Deity nigh,
prayer and praising, voices raising,
worshipping God on high. *(Refrain)*

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom,
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stonycold tomb. *(Refrain)*

5. Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and sacrifice:
hallelujah, hallelujah,
sounds through the earth and skies.
(Refrain)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

*Following the Time with the Children, children are invited to join our
Faith Finders program for children SK – Grade 8 in the downstairs HUB area.
Children will return to the Sanctuary during the last hymn.
Children's bulletins and colouring sheets are available on the table in the Narthex entryway.
We offer a staffed nursery throughout the service for our young ones up to age 4.*

SERMON: **Why?**

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

THE OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERTORY *Mary's Lullaby, Op. 76 no.52*

Max Reger (1973-1916)

*Amid the roses Mary sits
And rocks her Jesus-child,
While amid the treetops
Sighs the breeze so warm and mild.*

*And soft and sweetly sings
A bird upon a bough:
Ah, baby, dear one,
Slumber now!*

*Happy is Thy laughter,
Holy is Thy silent rest,
Lay Thy head in slumber
Fondly on Thy Mother's breast.
Ah, baby, dear one,
Slumber now!*

* THE DOXOLOGY AND PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

In The Bleak Mid-Winter 145 vs. 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.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

God of all time and space,
as we gather in prayer, we recognize that our lives are but small details
in the vast expanse of your universe.
So we thank you for attending to the details of our lives.
We thank you for the year just past,
for walking through the good days and the hard days with us.
Thank you for friendships and relationships that sustain us in uncertain times.
We ask for your Spirit to guide us into the future,
and create new possibilities for ministry and mission through our congregation.
In gratitude, our hearts kneel before you, O God;

Receive our humble prayers.

God of all people and places,
the year just ending has held sorrows for so many in our community and around the world.

We remember dear ones of have died
and pray for those who look ahead in loneliness or sadness.....

A silence is kept.

We pray for those who have faced challenges in health, in their families or at work.....

A silence is kept.

Support each one who needs you close by.

In compassion,

Our hearts kneel before you, O God;

Receive our humble prayers.

God of light and love,

As we face the year ahead, so much around us is still uncertain.

We seek your strength and guidance in each challenge we will face.

Draw near to each one who must confront illness, loss,

economic hardship or changing circumstances....

A silence is kept.

Guide those for whom new opportunities appear and choices must be made.

In anticipation,

our hearts kneel before you, O God;

Receive our humble prayers.

God of community and commitment,

We pray for wisdom and courage in the year ahead.

Strengthen us as a congregation to be a lively and committed witness to your love.

Help us reach out to our community in faithfulness and service.

Guide leaders in our nation and around the world

so that justice and peace may prevail,

especially in troubled places and vulnerable lives.

Show us all how to honour and protect your creation,

even when that takes sacrifice on our part.

Receive our humble prayers

and encourage us onward in the name of Jesus our Christ who taught us to pray together:

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 - Arise, Your Light Is Come

712 (see pg. 11)

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Nimrod from Variations on an Original Theme*

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Welcome to Central. If you're new today, we're glad you've come.

We're a community seeking to live with courage, kindness, and grace. We don't have all the answers, but we trust God is with us as we learn and grow together.

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).

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.



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

Precious Lord, take my hand

PRECIOUS LORD Irregular

Swing
G

G7 C6

1. Pre-cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me
 2. When my way grows drear, pre-cious Lord, lin-ger
 3. When the dark-ness ap-pears, and the night draws

G D7/F# Em A7 D A7/E

stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
 near; when my life is al-most gone,
 near, and the day is past and gone,

D7 G G7 C6

through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the
 hear my cry, hear my call; hold my hand lest I
 at the riv-er I stand, guide my feet, hold my

C#dim G/D C/E Cm6/Eb G/D D7 G

light:
 fall:
 hand:

take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Words: Thomas A. Dorsey (1899–1993) Music: Thomas A. Dorsey (1899–1993)

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Arise, your light is come

FESTAL SONG 12 14

Descant

4. A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song! Rise up! Rise

A D A D A E/B B7 E

1. A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey; show
 2. A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door; pro -
 3. A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born, bind
 4. A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song! Rise

up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

A E/G# D/F# A/E Bm/D B7/D# E A/C# D A/C# Esus4-3 A

forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
 claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 up the bro-ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

Words: Ruth Duck (1947-) Music: William H. Walter (1825-1893); descant, Diana McLeod (1931-)

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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

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| ~ Sunday, January 4, 10:30 a.m. | In Memoriam Service |
| ~ Monday, January 5, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. | H.O.O.T.C. Café (Fellowship Hall) |
| ~ Tuesday, January 6, 10:00 a.m. | Knit & Knatter Group (Guild Room) |
| ~ Thursday, January 8, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. | H.O.O.T.C. Meals To Go (Forecourt) |
| ~ Thursday, January 8, 7:30-9:30 p.m. | Central Choir Rehearsal |
| ~ Tuesday, January 20, 7:30 p.m. | Session Meeting |
| ~ Sunday, January 25, 3:00 p.m. Music@Central: Jonathan Oldengarm & Charlton String Quartet | |
| ~ Tuesday, January 27, 7:30 p.m. | Central Book Club (Allan Room) |

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 contact information is up-to-date with your elder or the church office. This is very important in keeping our church records up to date in preparation of the 2025 income tax receipts.



Thank you for your support of the causes the Mission Committee identified this Advent season. Generous gifts towards *Giving Hearts of Hamilton* on White Gift Sunday, and the Gaza Response were received. Over \$1100.00 was contributed to the PWS&D's Gaza Response!

PWS&D is responding to the crisis in Gaza, with our ecumenical networks and partnerships at ACT, Alliance and Canadian Foodgrains Bank to provide food and other humanitarian assistance where and whenever possible. [Support PWS&D's Gaza Response - Presbyterian World Service & Development](#)



Stewardship Moments: *Inspiring Generosity*

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

1 Chronicles 29:13



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

presbyterian.ca

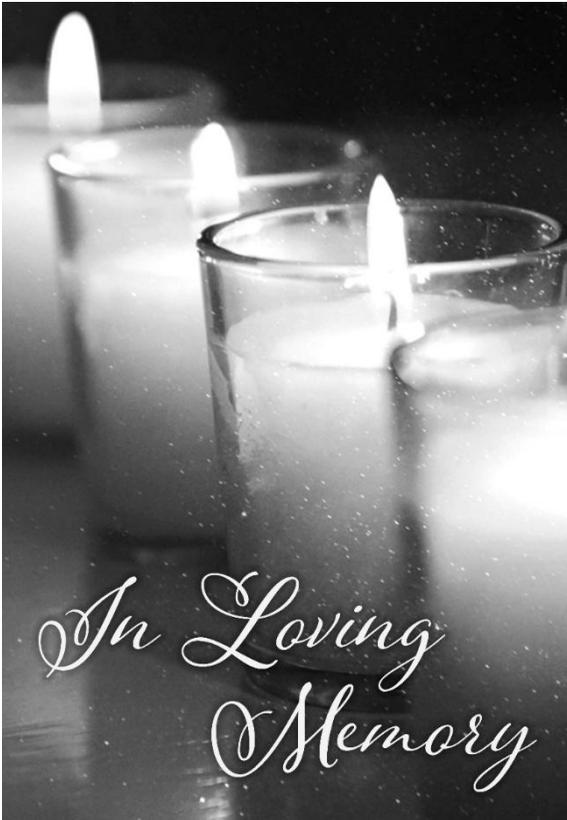


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Central Presbyterian Church - Land Acknowledgement *

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.***

*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
Coordinator of Discipleship – Michael Lovaglio
Bookkeeper – Michelle Frebald
Office Administrator – Helena Bootsma
Custodian – David Lewington
Nursery Coordinator – Brenda Ziemann
Sunday & Special Event Custodian – Geoff French
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