



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 8, 2026 10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday of Lent Sunday Worship

Minister – Rev. Hannah Lovaglio

Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes

Lector – Sue Dunlop

Responsive Reader – Rachel Weresch

Greeters – Jim & Myrna Evel

A Warm Welcome to Worship at Central this morning!

*Welcome, Families! We offer a staffed **nursery** throughout the service for young ones up to age 4. Children's bulletins and colouring pages are available on the table in the Sanctuary entryway. Following the **God's Word For The Children**, children are invited to join our Faith Finders program for children SK - Grade 8 in the downstairs HUB area. Children who attend Faith Finders will return to the Sanctuary during the last hymn to receive the blessing alongside the entire congregation.*

* Indicates standing, as you are able.

PRELUDE *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley*

H. S. Livingston, Jr.

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT *Kyrie from Missa Brevis No. 4*

H. Willan

Lord have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

A Blessing for Those Who Notice

by Kate Bowler

Leader: Bless you who notice...

All: **Who look around and see clearly:**

there is so much to lament.

This world and its people are hurting,

worn thin, stunned by cruelty,

living with repeated loss.

Bless you who carry the weight—

fresh disasters, slow recoveries,

the quiet grief of knowing some things are gone forever.

Bless you who long for more –
for peace to break out, the hungry to be fed, justice to prevail.
**Bless you whose arms are full of these heavy burdens
and who keep going anyway –**
living gently, creating beauty,
pushing back the ugliness,
trusting this day might still mean something good.

* HYMN – Come and Find the Quiet Center

(see pgs. 7 &8)

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Creator, Christ and Spirit
you provide what we need to live, from the bounty of creation.
God of mercy,
you know us through and through and you love us.
God of hope,
you have an everlasting purpose for us.
God of wisdom,
you open our minds and teach and guide us.
So we come to worship you,
Source of Wisdom, Son of Mercy, Spirit of Hope,
offering you our prayers and our praise,
trusting you to offer us the gifts we need to thrive
and to serve you in the world you love this day and always.

**God, our Redeemer,
We are not proud of all you hear in our thoughts and prayers.
We complain when we want things to change but don't know what to do.
We justify ourselves when you call us to change but we don't want to.
We blame others when things change and upset our expectations.
Forgive us, God, when we are not listening for you.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

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

GOD'S WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

Hymn 348 v. 1

*Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear,
things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:
scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,
stories of Jesus, tell them to me.*

1. O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths its flow
may rich er, fuller be.

2. O Light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
my heart restores its borrowed ray,
that in thy sunshine's blaze, its day
may brighter, fairer be.

3. O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain
that morn shall tearless be.

4. O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
and from the ground there blossoms red,
life that shall endless be.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 95:1-7 in the Red Book of Psalms, **Refrain I**

SCRIPTURE READING (p. 94)

John 4:5-42

SERMON: **Known at the Well**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Living Faith 6.1.2&3

**God brings us to faith in many ways.
We may have trusted in God from childhood;
or our faith may have come later in life.
Faith may come suddenly
or only after a struggle to believe.
Whatever the spiritual journey we have traveled,
God honours our faith, great or small.**

**Faith is a response
to God's presence in the midst of life.
It says "yes" to the God who is here.**

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* HYMN – I Heard The Voice Of Jesus Say

Hymn 671

THE OFFERING

Tithes and offerings can be given electronically through Canada Helps website, found using the QR code to the right.



CHORAL OFFERTORY

*Sanctus and Benedictus Qui Venit from Missa Brevis No. 4 H. Willan
Holy, Holy Lord of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory:
Glory be to thee, O Lord, Most high.
Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

* THE DOXOLOGY AND PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Hymn 205 vs. 6

*All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad,
the Trinity whom we adore forever and forevermore.*

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 - Christ's Is The World

758 vs. 1, 2, & 4

Christ's is the world in which we move; Christ's are the folk we're summoned to love;
Christ's is the voice which calls us to care, and Christ is the one who meets us here. *Refrain*

*Refrain: To the lost, Christ shows his face; To the unloved, he gives his embrace;
To those who cry in pain or disgrace, Christ makes, with his friends, a touching place.*

Feel for the people we most avoid -- strange or bereaved or never employed.
Feel for the women and feel for the men who fear that their living is all in vain. *Refrain*

Feel for the lives by life confused, riddled with doubt, in loving abused;
feel for the lonely heart, conscious of sin, which longs to be pure but fears to begin. *Refrain*

* BENEDICTION

*Agnus Dei from Missa Brevis No. 4 - H. Willan
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.*

POSTLUDE Sonata per Organo - *Andante Mosso*

P. F. da Falconara

*As the postlude is offered,
you may stay and receive the music,
or go and bless the world God loves.*



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.

10. Come and Find the Quiet Center

Text: Shirley Erena Murray

Music: Traditional American melody; arr. Jack Schrader

BEACH SPRING

8.7.8.7.D.

Unison

1. Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we
2. Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the
3. In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's

lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the
pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our
pain, let our loves and fears unravel, celestial

frame where we are freed: clear the chaos and the
being, touches base, making space within our
breathe the space we gain: there's a place for deepest

clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the
think-ing, lifting shades to show the sun, raising
dream-ing, there's a time for heart to care, in the

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things that real-ly mat-ter, be at peace, and sim-ply be.
 cour-age when we're shrink-ing, find-ing scope for faith be-gun.
 Spir-it's live-ly schem-ing there is al-ways room to spare!

1. Come and find the quiet center
 in the crowded life we lead,
 find the room for hope to enter,
 find the frame where we are freed:
 clear the chaos and the clutter,
 clear our eyes, that we can see
 all the things that really matter,
 be at peace, and simply be.

2. Silence is a friend who claims us,
 cools the heat and slows the pace,
 God it is who speaks and names us,
 knows our being, touches base,
 making space within our thinking,
 lifting shades to show the sun,
 raising courage when we're shrinking,
 finding scope for faith begun.

3. In the Spirit let us travel,
 open to each other's pain,
 let our loves and fears unravel,
 celebrate the space we gain:
 there's a place for deepest dreaming,
 there's a time for heart to care,
 in the Spirit's lively scheming
 there is always room to spare!

Shirley Erena Murray

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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.**

PC Statement of Welcome: www.cpchamilton.ca/statement-of-welcome-and-inclusion/

Session Snippets

Session met on Tuesday, March 3rd and discussed some of the following items in the life of Central Presbyterian Church:

- we formally received Lois Whitwell as a Minister in Association, and a member of Central as she has requested this through the presbytery;
- representatives of five churches in the downtown area met to discuss the possibility of collaborative ministry and mission opportunities and shared the results with Session;
- adopted, revised, and updated terms of reference for Session committees and teams which were developed during a Saturday morning retreat in early February;
- reflected on and discussed some of the feedback from our annual meeting;
- celebrated the fact that we have been asking, and many of you have agreed to be more engaged in our worship life by greeting and/or reading on a Sunday morning. The more the merrier; and what a great way to meet and appreciate each other on Sunday mornings!

As always, there was a lifting up to the light of the joys, hopes and needs of people in this community. Sharing with one another the pastoral concerns and celebrations of this particular body of Christ is perhaps the most important part of every meeting. Pray for us, as we also pray for you.

If you have any questions or comments, you are encouraged to reach out to Reverend Hannah, Mark Stupple or your elder.

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.

March is Fraud Prevention Month. Scams are ever evolving, and frequently impersonate church leaders, bank or phone company representatives. We encourage you to stay alert and informed. Remember no one from the church will ever ask for personal information or request assistance with gift cards or payments. Learn more here: https://support.bell.ca/Billing-and-Accounts/Security_and_privacy

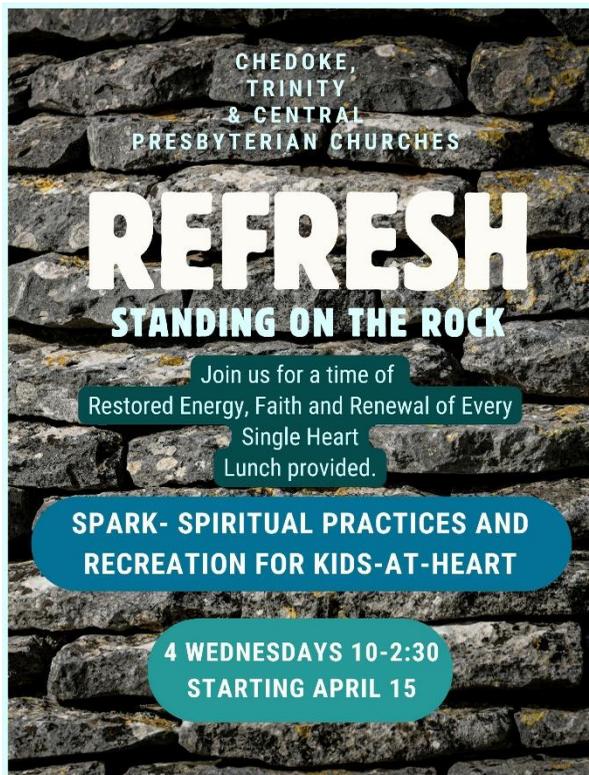
The March edition of the CONTACT Newsletter and the 2025 Annual Reports with an updated church directory are ready. If you would like a copy, please contact your elder, Mark Stupple, Pastor Hannah, or Helena in the office.

Invitation to REFRESH Spring 2026: Standing on the Rock at Chedoke Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, April 15 9:45 a.m. arrival - 2:30pm. Lunch is provided at no cost. Additional dates for this series include: April 22, April 29, May 6.

(register via link below or in Central's weekly email).

Any questions? Please contact Michael Lovaglio at michael@cpchamilton.ca.



<https://chedokepresbyterianchurch.breezechms.com/form/e8074170>



Sundays ~ at 10:30 a.m.

Palm Sunday Service ~ March 29 at 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Service ~ April 2 at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service ~ April 3 at 10:30 a.m.

Good Friday Choir Concert ~ April 3 at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday ~ April 5 at 10:30 a.m.

Central Presbyterian Church Calendar

~ Sundays in March, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

~ Sunday, March 8, 10:30 a.m.

~ Monday, March 9, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

~ Tuesday, March 10, 10:00 a.m.

~ Thursday, March 12, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

~ Thursday, March 12, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

~ Tuesday, March 31, 7:30 p.m.

~ Tuesday, April 7, 7:30 p.m.

~ Sunday, April 12, 3:00 p.m.

~ Wednesday, April 15, 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Book Study on the Gospel of John

Third Sunday of Lent Worship Service

H.O.O.T.C. Café (Fellowship Hall)

Knit & Knatter Group (Guild Room)

H.O.O.T.C. Meals To Go (Ramp Door)

Central Choir Rehearsal

Central Book Club (Allan Room)

Session Meeting

Music@Central: Marcus Scholtes & Ben Smith

Societus Vicorum (Guild Room)

Invitation to Societus Vicorum: CPC is excited to announce a new discussion group starting Wednesday, April 15th at 7:00 p.m. in the Guild Room. Entitled Societus Vicorum, the group will decide on when it will regularly meet at their first gathering. Our first few books will engage with faith and politics, starting with N.T. Wright and Michael F Bird's *Jesus and the Powers: Christian Political Witness in an Age of Totalitarian Terror and Dysfunctional Democracies*. For more information, please contact Michael Lovaglio at michael@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/>

Sermon Notes



Riches I hold in light esteem,
And Love I laugh to scorn;
And lust of fame was but a dream,
That vanished with the morn:

And if I pray, the only prayer
That moves my lips for me
Is, "Leave the heart that now I bear,
And give me liberty!"

Yes, as my swift days near their goal:
'Tis all that I implore;
In life and death a chainless soul,
With courage to endure.

Emily Brontë, "Riches I Hold in
Light Esteem"

Stewardship Moments: *Inspiring Generosity*

**Money is but one venue for generosity.
Kindness is an even more valuable currency.**

Alan Cohen (1950 –), author



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

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

T: 905-522-9098 E: info@cpchamilton.ca

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***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.***