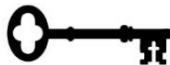




TO WORSHIP GOD,
to grow as disciples of Jesus,
TO CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER,
to take God's love to the world.



905-522-9098 | cpchamilton.ca
CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
165 Charlton Ave. W., Hamilton, ON L8P 2C8

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAMILTON

April 12, 2026 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service

Minister – Rev. Hannah Lovaglio

Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes

Lector –Elspeth Thomson

Guest Trumpeter – Nora Hammond

Greeters – Pam & Lee Carpenter

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.*

*The flowers are placed in the chancel today to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Betty Watson, Jim Watson's mother whose birthday was in April.*

* Indicates standing, as you are able.

PRELUDE *Keltic Largo*

J. H. Foulds, Arr. by D. D. Mason

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT *Hail, O Festival Day*

Hymn 244 vs. 1-2

*Refrain: Hail, O festival day! Blest day that all ages will cherish:
day when the Christ was raised, breaking the bondage of death.*

- 1. See how the grace of the world, reborn, blossoms forth from the winter, bears witness to Christ's return: life's very gift is renewed. Refrain*
- 2. Now on the third day returned, arise now, O Christ, who was buried; filling your promise of faith, nourishing Power, arise. Refrain*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ is Risen.

All: He is Risen, indeed!

And not just last week.

And not just once upon a time.

And not just in a story we tell once a year and then tuck away.

Christ is Risen!

He is Risen, indeed!

The resurrection is not behind us, but breaking in, even now.

Some still carry Good Friday.

Some of us missed Easter altogether.

Some of us aren't sure what resurrection means, anyway.

And still, the church dares to say:

Christ is Risen!

He is Risen, indeed!

This morning, we begin again.

Easter, again.

Resurrection, again.

Let us worship the Risen Lord.

* HYMN – Now The Green Blade Rises

Hymn 256 (see pg. 7)

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news:

Resurrection is not something we achieve.

It is something God does.

Not because we understand it.

Not because we deserve it.

But because love refuses to let death have the final word.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

In Jesus Christ, we are made new.

Thanks be to God.

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

*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.*

* HYMN – Now Let The Vault Of Heaven Resound

Hymn 255

1. Now let the vault of heaven resound
in praise of love that doth abound,
'Christ hath triumphed, hallelujah!
sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear,
repeat their song of glory here,
'Christ hath triumphed, Christ hath triumphed!"
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

2. Eternal is the gift he brings;
wherefore our heart with rapture sings,
'Christ hath triumphed, Je sus liveth!
now doth he come and give us life;
now doth his presence still all strife
through his triumph; Jesus reigneth!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

3. Oh fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
set heart and will on things above,
that we conquer through thy triumph;
grant grace sufficient for life's day,
that by our life we ever say,
'Christ hath triumphed, and he liv eth!"
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

4. Adoring praises now we bring,
and with the heavenly blessed sing,
'Christ hath triumphed, hallelujah!"
Be to the Father and our Lord,
to Spirit blest, most holy God,
thine the glory neverending!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

GOD SPEAKS TO US

SCRIPTURE READING (p. 115)

John 20:19-29

SERMON: **Resurrection, Anyway**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Living Faith 3.4.3

**God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery
which the Scriptures describe as
the sacrifice of a lamb,
a shepherd's life given for his sheep,
atonement by a priest.**

**It is also the innocent dying for the guilty,
the ransom of a slave,
payment of a debt,
and victory over the powers of evil.**

**Such expressions interpret the love of God
revealing the gravity, cost, and sure achievement
of our Lord's work.**

**Yet that love we cannot fully explain.
God's grace, received by faith alone,
pardons and justifies,
redeems and reconciles us.**

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* HYMN - In The Bulb There Is A Flower

Hymn 674 (see pg. 8)

THE OFFERING

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



CHORAL OFFERING *Awake, Thou Wintry Earth* (from Cantata No.129 'Gelobet sei der Herr') J. S. Bach

*Awake, thou wintry earth, Fling off, fling off thy sadness.
Ye vernal flow'rs laugh forth, laugh forth your ancient gladness.
A new and lovely tale throughout the land is sped,
It floats o'er hill and dale To tell that Death is dead.*

*Descended to the grave, Where our belov'd lie sleeping,
Hath Christ return'd to save our heart from woe and weeping.
O earth, break forth and sing, Renew thy bright array,
With fairest blooms of spring Bestrew the Saviour's way.*

* 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; praise Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION 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**

GOD SENDS US

* HYMN - I Dance In The Morning / Lord Of The Dance

Hymn 250 (see pgs. 9-10)

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Allegro from the Concerto in D Major for Trumpet and Organ G. P. Telemann, Arr. by M. Rondeau

*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.

Now the green blade rises

FRENCH CAROL 11 11 10 11

1. Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2. In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3. Forth he came at Eas - ter, like the ris - en grain,
 4. When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing or in pain,

wheat that in the dark earth man - y days has lain;
 sure that he would nev - er, ne - ver wake a - gain,
 he that for these three days in the grave had lain;
 then your touch can call us back to life a - gain,

love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:
 raised from the dead my liv - ing Lord is seen:
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

love is come a - gain like wheat new - spring - ing green.

Chords: Fm, (Bb6/F), Fm, Bbm6, Caug (C9), Fm, Fm, Bb6 (Bb), Fm, 7, Bb, Caug (C7), Fm, Bb6, Bb, Eb, C/E, Fm, 7, G, 7, C, Fm, Gm/F, Fm, /Ab, Gm, Caug (C), Fm

Words: J.M.C. Crum (1872–1958), alt from Oxford Book of Carols Music: French traditional carol “Noël Nouvelet”; harmony, Martin Shaw (1875–1958) from Oxford Book of Carols

Words: copyright © Oxford University Press Music: harmony, copyright © Oxford University Press. 1928

In the bulb there is a flower

PROMISE 8787D

Unison

F Gm/F

1. In the bulb there is a flow - er, in the seed, an ap - ple tree,
 2. There's a song in eve - ry si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
 3. In our end is our be - gin - ning, in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

C7/G F

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
 there's a dawn in eve - ry dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing, in our life, e - ter - ni - ty,

F7 Bb (Gm6) F/A Gm A Dm

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
 in our death, a res - ur - rec - tion, at the last, a vic - to - ry,

/C Bb Gm6 F/C Dm Gm 7 C 7 Fsus4-3

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

Words: Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992) Music: Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992)

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I danced in the morning / Lord of the dance

LORD OF THE DANCE Irregular with refrain

G Em Bm Em Am

1. I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun, and I danced in the moon
2. I danced for the scribe and the Phar - i - see, but they would not dance
3. I danced on the Sab-bath and I cured the lame: the ho - ly peo -
4. I danced on a Fri-day when the sky turned black; it's hard to dance
5. They cut me down and I leap up high; I am the life

D G Em

and the stars and the sun, and I came down from heav-en and I
and they would-n't fol-low me; I danced for the fish-er-men, for
ple said it was a shame. They whipped and they stripped and they
with the de - vil on your back. They bur - ied my bo - dy, and they
that - 'll nev - er, nev - er die; I'll live in you if you'll

Words: Sydney Carter (1915-) Music: 19th century, Shaker tune; adaptation by Sydney Carter (1915-);
arrangement, John Birch

Words: copyright © 1963 by Stainer & Bell Ltd. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Hope Publishing Co. Music: copyright © 1963 by
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Bm Em Am D 7 C/G G

danced on the earth; at Beth - le - hem I had my birth.
 James and John; they came with me and the dance went on.
 hung me high, and they left me there on a cross to die.
 thought I'd gone, but I am the dance, and I still go on.
 live in me; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

Refrain D6 Bm Em G Am7 D /C

Dance, then, wher - ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he, and I'll

G/B C G/D D/C G/B Am7 D7 G C G

lead you all, wher - ev - er you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

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 the office (info@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 or Rev. Lois.

If you would like to dedicate Chancel flowers in memory or honour of a loved one, contact either Johanna DeBruin or Jim Watson from the Flower Committee.

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 (see above for the for the QR code for Canada Helps to give electronically).

Central Presbyterian Church Calendar

- | | |
|---|--|
| ~ Sunday, April 12, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. | Final Lenten Book Study on the Gospel of John |
| ~ Sunday, April 12, 10:30 a.m. | Sunday of Worship Service |
| ~ Sunday, April 12, 3:00 p.m. | Music@Central: Marcus Scholtes & Ben Smith |
| ~ Tuesday, April 14, 10:00 a.m. | Knit & Knatter Group (Guild Room) |
| ~ Wednesday, April 15, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. | H.O.O.T.C. BBQ (Forecourt) |
| ~ Wednesday, April 15, 7:00 p.m. | Societus Vicorum (Guild Room) |
| ~ Thursday, April 16, 7:30-9:30 p.m. | Central Choir Rehearsal |
| ~ Thursday, April 16, 7:30-9:30 p.m. | Small Group Study (Guild Room) |
| ~ Friday, April 17, 7:00 p.m. | Central Youth Group |
| ~ Sunday, April 19, 9:45 a.m. | Ben-Hur Lesson & Film - Central Youth & FF Grades 5-8 |
| ~ Tuesday, April 28, 7:30 p.m. | Central Book Club (Allan Room) |
| ~ Sunday, May 3, 5:00 p.m. | Music@Central: Seke and Friends "Language of the Heart" |
| ~ Tuesday, May 5, 7:30 p.m. | Session Meeting (Allan Room) |

I believe the resurrection of Christ is saying that the final judgment has already happened. It's nothing we need to fear. It's nothing we need to avoid or deny. God's final judgment is that God will have the last word! Easter reveals that there are no dead ends; ultimately, nothing is going to end in tragedy and crucifixion. Of course we look around us, at history and at life in its daily moments and it seems, "No, no, that isn't true." And yet, ever and again, here and there, more than we suspect, new life breaks through for those who are willing to see and to cooperate with this universal mystery of resurrection.

What the resurrection reveals more than anything else is that *love is stronger than death*. Jesus walks the way of death with love, and what it becomes is not death but life. Surprise of surprises! It doesn't fit any logical explanation. Yet this is the mystery: that nothing dies forever, and that all that has died will be reborn in love.

So to be a Christian is to be inevitably and forever a person of hope. God in Christ is saying this is what will last: my life and my love will always and forever have the final word.

- Adapted from Father Richard Rohr, "[Easter Sunday](#)," homily, April 8, 2012.

Sermon Notes

**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/

***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.***

**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/>

*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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