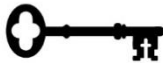




TO WORSHIP GOD,
to grow as disciples of Jesus,
TO CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER,
to take God's love to the world.



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

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAMILTON

December 1, 2024 10:30 a.m.

**The First Sunday Advent: The Candle of Hope
Sunday Communion and Worship Service
Minister – Rev. Dr. Nick Athanasiadis
Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes
Advent Wreath lighting – Weresch Family
Reader – Judy Johnson
Greeters – Gloria Gavin & Judy Johnson**

A Warm Welcome to Worship at Central this morning!

* *Indicates standing, as you are able.*

PRELUDE *Komm, heiliger Geist/ Komm, Gott Schöpfer* J. Pachelbel
(*"Come, Holy Spirit/ Come, God Creator"*)

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT – *Hope Is A Star* Words by B. A. Wren, Music by J. C. Fogg 119 v.1

*Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on till the morning is bright.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Reader One: From deep in the past, Jeremiah calls to us, “The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah” (Jeremiah 33:14). Beloved, the days are surely coming when the yearning of the land; the longing of the sun, moon, and stars; the desperate need of the people of earth for flourishing and peace will receive their fulfillment.

Congregation: While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to attend and receive God’s grace already at work in our midst.

Reader Two: We light this candle of hope as a sign of our commitment to pay attention and prepare for the days that are surely coming and are already here – the days when God’s kingdom of love, justice, and mercy will reign.

Light the first candle of the Advent wreath.

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

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

Refrain:

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

4. Oh come, thou Branch of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave. Refrain

2. Oh come, oh come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain

5. Oh come, thou Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high
and close the path to misery. Refrain

PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* HYMN - All Earth is Waiting to See the Promised One

109

COLLECTION OF WHITE GIFTS

*Following the Time the White Gift Collection, a program
for children SK - Grade 8 will be available in the upstairs Faith Finders room.
Children will return to the sanctuary prior to Communion.
Staffed Nursery is available for our young ones up to age 4 throughout the entire service.*

GOD SPEAKS TO US

SCRIPTURE READING (p. 91)

John 1:1-18

SERMON: **The Word Made Flesh**

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* HYMN - From Heaven You Came, Helpless Babe

379

THE OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERTORY *Adam Lay Ybounden*

*Adam lay ybounden, Bounden in a bond; Four thousand winter Thought he not too long.
And all was for an apple, an apple that he took, As clerkes finden Writen in their book.
Ne had the apple taken been, Ne had never our Lady Abeen heaven queen.
Blessed be the time that apple taken was; Therefore we moun singen: Deo gracias!*

Old English: ybounden = bound; clerkes = clergy; book = Bible; abeen = have been; moun = must

* THE DOXOLOGY AND PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

***Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below:
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost***

HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

HYMN - All Who Hunger; Gather Gladly

534

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Blessed and holy are you, O God, creator of all things. In the beginning, your Spirit moved over the waters, bringing order, light, and life out of chaos. You knit together our inward parts, made us in your image and breathed breath and life into us. When we turn away from you and our love fails, your love remains constant. When we wander off and follow ways of sin and death you call us from our scattered lives to repentance, unity and peace.

Therefore, with choirs of angels and archangels and with those of every time and place, we give you praise and glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy, mighty and tender God, in time you sent word to Mary that she would conceive a son and call him Jesus and in him we saw your promises incarnated. Dwelling among us we heard and saw Good News: welcome for the outcast, healing for the sick, and food for the hungry. In his suffering, death and resurrection, he delivered us from sin and death and revealed your living and redeeming hope for all people. And when he ascended into heaven, your Holy Spirit came to be our Counsellor and Comforter. And so, remembering Christ's life, love, death, and resurrection, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ was promised.
Christ was born.
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we share may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, world without end.

As Christ taught his disciples we now pray (sung)

831

**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 debts,**

**As we forgive our debtors,
As we forgive our debtors,
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory
forever. Amen**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

In gratitude, in deep gratitude
for this moment,
this meal,
these people,
we give ourselves to you.

**Take us out
to live as changed people
because we have shared the Living Bread
and cannot remain the same.**

**Ask much of us,
expect much of us,
enable much by us,
encourage many through us.**

So Lord, may we live to your glory,
both as inhabitants of earth
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. AMEN.

GOD SENDS US

* HYMN – Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

110

1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

2. Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *The Advent of Our Saviour*

J. R. Ahle

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!

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.

All earth is waiting

TAULÉ 11 12 12 11

D /F# G6 /B A 7

1. All earth is wait-ing to see the Prom-ised One,
 2. Thus says the proph-et to those of Is - ra - el:
 3. Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be made plain;
 4. In low - ly sta - ble the Prom-ised One ap - peared;

D F#m G Em7 A 7

and o - pen fur - rows a - wait the seed of God. All the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em-man - u - el," one whose
 o - pen new high-ways, new high-ways for the Lord. He is
 yet feel his pres-ence through-out the earth to - day, for he

Bm F#m G Em6 D/F# F#m/A

world, bound and strug-gling, seeks true lib - er - ty; it
 name is "God-with-us" our Sav - iour shall be; with
 now com - ing clos - er, so come all and see, and
 lives in all Chris-tians and is with us now; a -

Bm F#m 1-3. G6 Em7 A 7 4. G6 A6 D

cries out for jus - tice and search-es for the truth.
 him hope will blos - som once more with-in our hearts.
 o - pen the door-ways as wide as wide can be.
 gain, with his com-ing he brings us lib-er-ty.

Words: Alberto Taulé (1932-); translation, Gertrude C. Suppe (1911-) Music: Alberto Taulé (1932-); harmony, Skinner Chávez-Melo (1944-1992)

Words: translation copyright © The United Methodist Publishing House, 1989 Music: copyright © Centro de Pastoral Litúrgica, 1993. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Harmony, copyright © Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1988

379 From heaven you came, helpless babe

THE SERVANT KING 8 8 7 8 with refrain

Unison

Cm G/B Abmaj7 Bb/Ab Eb/G

1. From heaven you came, help-less babe, en-tered our world, your
 2. There in the gard-en of tears, my hea-vy load he
 3. Come see his hands and his feet, the scars that speak of
 4. So let us learn how to serve, and in our lives en-

Ab/C Eb/Bb Bb Cm G/B Abmaj7

glo-ry veiled, not to be served but to serve,
 chose to bear; his heart with sor-row was torn:
 sac-ri-fice, hands that flung stars in-to space
 throne him, each oth-er's needs to pre-fer,

Bb/Ab Eb/G Ab/C Eb/Bb Bbsus4 - 2

and give your life that we might live.
 "Yet not my will but yours," he said.
 to cru-el nails sur-ren-dered.
 for it is Christ we're serv-ing.

Words: Graham Kendrick (1950-) Music: Graham Kendrick (1950-)

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Refrain (Bb) Eb Bb Cm C#m/Bb

This is our God, the Ser-vant King, he calls us

Ab Bb (Ab/Bb) Eb Bb Eb Eb/Db

now to fol - low him, to bring our lives as a dai - ly of - fer -

Ab/C D Eb /G Bb 1. -3. Eb G7 4. Eb

ing of wor-ship to the Ser-vant King. King.

Communion

534

All who hunger, gather gladly

HOLY MANNA 8787D

Unison

F Dm Gm Dm Am Gm7

1. All who hung - er, gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na
 2. All who hung - er, nev - er strang - ers, seek - er, be a
 3. All who hung - er, sing to - geth - er; Je - sus Christ is

B♭maj7 Dm C/E Dm C B♭maj7

is our bread. Come from wil - der - ness and wan - dering.
 wel - come guest. Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing.
 liv - ing bread. Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing.

Am B♭maj7 C6 F F /E Dm7 /C

Here, in truth, we will be fed. You that yearn for
 Here, in joy, we keep the feast. We that once were
 Here, in peace, we have been led. Blest are those who

See also: Holy Manna 305

Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955–1993) Music: attributed to William Moore (fl.1825); harmony, Charles Anders (1929–)

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B♭maj7 /A Gm7 Dm B♭maj7 C6 B♭sus2 Am7 B♭maj7 Gm7 Csus2 - 3

days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
 lost and scat-tered in com-mun-ion's love have stood.
 from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.

F Dm C Gm7 Am B♭maj7 C6 C F

Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Stewardship Moment



For it is in giving
 that we receive.

St. Francis of Assisi

Mission Committee White Gift Sunday Announcement – Sunday, December 1st, 2024:

This year, for our White Gift Sunday on December 1st, Central is working with **Giving Hearts of Hamilton**. This is one of the organizations that helps the un-housed in our city. The organization was started by two concerned citizens, Sandy & Rhonda, in 2016 as “Sandy Claus Stockings.” The goal was to gather various items throughout the year and hand out 200 gift bags to the Unhoused during the Christmas season. Now, the group holds a once-a-month kindness day in the parking lot by Whitehern/City Hall. Throughout each month items are dropped off to different encampments. Here is a list of items that are needed: hats, mitts, scarves, hot paws, blankets, coats, boots, tarps, sleeping bags, oversized ziplock bags for carrying their items to keep them dry. Hand creams, chapstick, Gift Cards to Tim Horton's or anywhere they could get a hot drink/soup etc., Snacks that are easy to carry around -granola bars, or nutrigrain bars.

Advent Devotional ~ The Weary World Rejoices by Kate Bowler

This year, we invite you to embrace the Advent and Christmas season as it is – imperfect, beautiful, and real.

Join us in this journey with our free 4-week daily devotional, **The Weary World Rejoices**.

This Advent journey begins on Sunday, December 1, 2024.

You can access this daily devotional via a downloadable PDF, an interactive PDF to save on your device, or online through these links: [The Weary World Rejoices - Kate Bowler](https://katebowler.com/seasonal_devotional/the-weary-world-rejoices/#guides)
https://katebowler.com/seasonal_devotional/the-weary-world-rejoices/#guides

Please contact Helena in the Office if you would like a printed copy of the devotional (helena@cpchamilton.ca)

Status of the search for our new minister: We have now entered an important phase of the search process as the Search Committee considers potential candidates for our new minister. Please pray for the members of the committee - that they might be wise and discerning as God's Holy Spirit leads them to that special person God has in mind to lead the congregation into the future.

During the search process, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Rev. Dr. Philip Wilson (our Interim Moderator) either in-person at coffee time following Sunday services; by phone at 905-574-4383; or by email at revpmw@outlook.com.

Please continue to pray along with the Search Committee during the search process.

The Search Committee prayer can be found on our website: [Search Committee Prayer - CPC Hamilton](http://www.cpchamilton.ca/search-committee-prayer/) : www.cpchamilton.ca/search-committee-prayer/

Central Presbyterian Church Calendar

~ Sunday, December 1, 10:30 a.m.	First Sunday of Advent ~ Communion and White Gift Sunday
~ Sunday, December 1, 3:00 p.m.	Music @ Central: Devah Quartet Chamber Concert
~ Monday, December 2, 10:00 a.m. – Noon	HOOTC Café
~ Tuesday, December 3, 10:00 a.m. – Noon	Knit & Knatter Group (Guild Room)
~ Thursday, December 5, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.	HOOTC Meals to Go
~ Thursday, December 5, 7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
~ Friday, December 6, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Central Youth
~ Saturday, December 7, Noon – 3:00 p.m.	Durand Christmas Market
~ Sunday, December 8, 10:30 a.m.	Second Sunday of Advent
~ Sunday, December 8, 7:00 p.m.	Candlelight Carol Service
~ Sunday, December 15, 10:30 a.m.	Third Sunday of Advent
~ Sunday, December 15 after worship	Christmas Cookie Walk
~ Monday, December 16, 7:30 p.m.	Search Committee Meeting
~ Sunday, December 22, 10:30 a.m.	Fourth Sunday of Advent- Christmas Pageant
~ Sunday, December 24, 8:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Worship ~ Candlelight Communion

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/

The Children's Library has been moved to the Guild Room from the Faith Finders' Rooms on the second floor. The shelves have been stabilized, thanks to Steve Pierre, and the books replaced on the shelves. They are now ready to be used and borrowed by our Faith Finders. Please sign your name on the card in the front or back of the book and place it in the box on the shelf. Books can be returned to the basket by the door of the Guild Room. Enjoy!

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/>

YOU'RE INVITED



Christmas at Central

SUNDAY DECEMBER 1 – 10:30 A.M.
THE CANDLE OF HOPE
SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8 – 10:30 A.M.
THE CANDLE OF PEACE

CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE – 7:00 PM
FEATURING HAMILTON BRASS QUINTET/CENTRAL YOUTH CHOIR
CHARLTON STRING QUARTET/CENTRAL AND FRIENDS CHOIR

SUNDAY DECEMBER 15 – 10:30 A.M.
THE CANDLE OF JOY

SUNDAY DECEMBER 22 – 10:30 A.M.
THE CANDLE OF LOVE
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – CLOTH FOR THE CRADLE

TUESDAY DECEMBER 24 – 8:00 PM
CHRISTMAS EVE - CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION

SUNDAY DECEMBER 29 – 10:30 AM
NEW YEAR'S EVE - WORSHIP – A BLESSING



CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

165 CHARLTON AVE. W. HAMILTON, ON

905-522-9098

CPCHAMILTON.CA

Word of the Day: From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace (John 1:16).

Prompts for Reflection

"Love Bade Me Welcome"

LOVE bade me welcome; yet my soul drew back,
Guilty of dust and sin.
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack
From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning
If I lack'd anything.

'A guest,' I answer'd, 'worthy to be here:'
Love said, 'You shall be he.'
'I, the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear,

I cannot look on Thee.'
Love took my hand and smiling did reply,
'Who made the eyes but I?'
'Truth, Lord; but I have marr'd them: let my shame
Go where it doth deserve.'
'And know you not,' says Love, 'Who bore the blame?' 15
'My dear, then I will serve.'
'You must sit down,' says Love, 'and taste my meat.'
So I did sit and eat. --George Herbert

- Nick Athanasiadis

*Interim Minister – The Rev. Dr. Nicholas Athanasiadis
Minister Emeritus – The Rev. Dr. Alan M. McPherson
Interim Moderator – The Rev. Dr. Philip Wilson
Director of Pastoral Care – The Rev. Lois Whitwell
Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes
Nursery and Faith Finders Coordinator – Kristel Forcier
Bookkeeper – Michelle Frebald
Office Administrator – Helena Bootsma
Custodian – David Lewington*

Sunday & Special Event Custodian – Geoff French

Telephone: 905-522-9098 Email: info@cpchamilton.ca www.cpchamilton.ca

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"All Are Welcome" by Father Sieger Köder

George Herbert
(1593-1633)

Associated with the metaphysical poets, was a Welsh poet, orator, and priest. He spent the last years of his life as a rector in a little parish of the St. Andrews Church in Lower Bemerton, Salisbury.



CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE

07.00 P.M. | December 8

Sunday

Central Presbyterian Church

165 Charlton Ave. West

A Joyous Musical Celebration of the Christmas Season!

Free Admission/ Donations Welcome – all proceeds go
towards the Music Ministry

Featuring:

Hamilton Brass Quintet

Central Youth Singers

Charlton String Quartet

Central and Friends Choir

cpchamilton.ca

