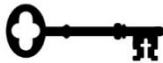




TO WORSHIP GOD,
to grow as disciples of Jesus,
TO CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER,
to take God's love to the world.



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

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAMILTON

December 15, 2024 10:30 a.m.

The Third Sunday Advent: The Candle of Joy Sunday Worship Service

Minister – Rev. Dr. Nick Athanasiadis
Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes
Advent Wreath lighting – LaGrand Family
Reader – Michelle Din
Greeters – Ingrid & Tom Scott

A Warm Welcome to Worship at Central this morning!

* *Indicates standing, as you are able.*

PRELUDE *Prelude* from the Advent Suite For Organ

P. A. Yon

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT – *Hope Is A Star*

Words by B. A. Wren, Music by J. C. Fogg 119 v.3

Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn, telling the world that the Saviour is born.

Refrain: 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: No matter what troubles overwhelm us today, Isaiah reminds us that in all of our preparation and passionate pursuit of God's coming kingdom, we must not forget that God's salvation has come and is coming. "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation" (Isaiah 12:3). With joy you will remember that God's salvation is already present among us.

Congregation: Faced with the troubles and the suffering of the world, we choose to live in joyful presence to God and one another. We will not turn away from the pain and the hurt in our world, and we will not stop rejoicing in God, whose salvation fills us to overflowing that God's love might flow through us and flood our troubled world with hope, peace, and joy.

Reader Two: We light this candle of joy as a sign of our commitment to be present to ourselves, our friends, our families, and our neighbors that in sharing our vulnerable lives we might share in the glorious joy of God's salvation!

Light the third (pink/rose) candle of the Advent wreath.

* HYMN - Sing A New Song Unto The Lord

422 (see pgs. 6-7)

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 - Go, Tell It On The Mountain

133 (see pg. 8)

GOD SPEAKS TO US

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Following the Time with the Children, a program for children SK - Grade 8 will be available in the upstairs Faith Finders room. Parents can meet the children there following worship. Staffed Nursery is available for our young ones up to age 4 throughout the entire service.

SCRIPTURE READING (p. 667)

Isaiah 40:1-11

SCRIPTURE READING (p. 34)

Mark 1:1-8

SERMON: *What is the "Gospel"?*

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* HYMN - Angels From The Realms Of Glory

146

1. Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Refrain:
Come and worship, come and worship;
worship Christ, the newborn King.

2. Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night;
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant Light.

3. Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star.

4. Saints, before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear.

5. Though an infant now we view him,
he shall fill his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him;
every knee shall then bow down.

THE OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERTORY *In dulci jubilo*

R. L. Pearsall

*In dulci jubilo Let us our homage shew;
Our heart's joy reclineth In praesepio,
And like a bright star shineth Matris in gremio; Alpha es et O, Alpha es et O.*

*O Jesu parvule! My heart is sore for Thee!
Hear me, I beseech Thee, O Puer optime!
My prayer let it reach Thee, O Princeps gloriae! Trahe me post Te! Trahe me post Te!*

*O Patris caritas! O Nati lenitas!
Deep were we stained Pernostris crimina;
But Thou hast for us gained Coelorum gaudia: O that we were there, O that we were there!*

*Ubisunt gaudia, where, If that they be not there?
There, are angels singing Nova cantica;
There, the bells are ringing In Regiscuria: O that we were there, O that we were there!*

* 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*

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION & THE LORD PRAYER (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**

GOD SENDS US

* HYMN – Joy To The World

153

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive its King;
let every heart prepare him room
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature
sing.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

2. Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns:
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and
plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

4. He rules the world with truth and
grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Toccata on the Gregorian Hymn "Creator of the Starry Heights" P. A. Yon

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.

Worship

422

Sing a new song unto the Lord

SING A NEW SONG 7 6 9 6 with refrain (8 9 8 6)

Unison

Refrain G

Sing a new song un - to the Lord; let your song be

sung from moun - tain's height. Sing a new song

un - to the Lord, sing-ing hal - le - lu - jah!

Fine

Words: Psalm 98; paraphrase, Daniel L. Schutte Music: Daniel L. Schutte (1947-), arrangement Sr. Theophane Hytrek, OSF (1915-1992)

Words: paraphrase, copyright © Daniel L. Schutte, 1972, 1974, 1979. Administered by New Dawn Music. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music: copyright © Daniel L. Schutte, 1972, 1974, 1979. Administered by New Dawn Music. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

G D7/A Am/G D/F# Em /D C6 G6/B

1. For God's peo - ple dance for joy. Oh come be - fore the
 2. Rise, O chil - dren, from your sleep; your Sav - iour now has
 3. Glad my soul for I have seen the glo - ry of the

D7/A G D7/F# G D7/A Am/G /E D

Lord, play for the Lord on glad tam - bou - rines, and
 come. He has turned your sor - row to joy, and
 Lord. The trum - pet sounds; the dead shall be raised. I

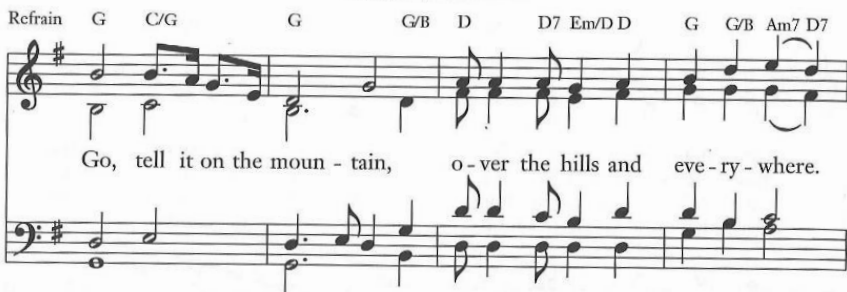
C Am7 Dsus4- 2- 3 D.C. al Fine

let your trum - pet sound.
 filled your soul with song.
 know my Sav - iour lives.

Go, tell it on the mountain

GO, TELL IT 7 6 7 6 with refrain

Refrain G C/G G G/B D D7 Em/D D G G/B Am7 D7



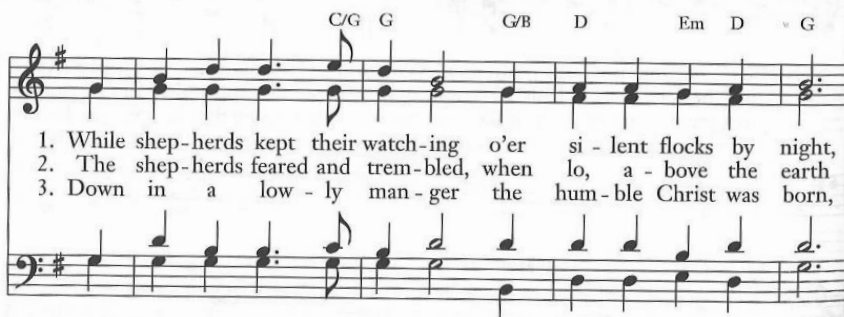
Go, tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and eve - ry - where.

G C/G G G/B Am/C Am C/D D7 G Fine



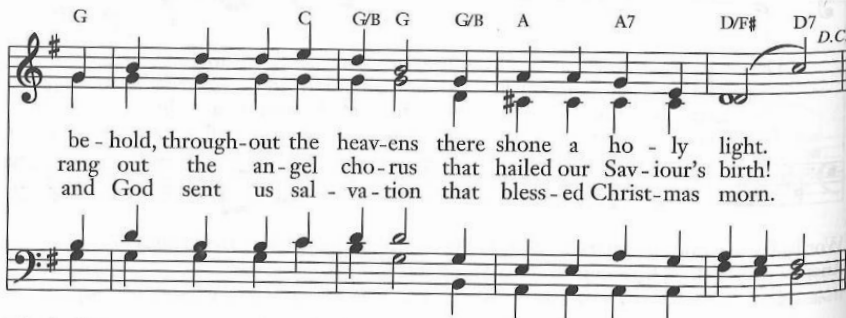
Go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born.

C/G G G/B D Em D G



1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
 2. The shep-herds feared and trem-bled, when lo, a - bove the earth
 3. Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

G C G/B G G/B A A7 D/F# D7 D.C.



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
 rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - iour's birth!
 and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Words: African-American traditional; adaptation, John W. Work (1901-1967)

Music: African-American traditional; arrangement, John W. Work (1901-1967), alt

Words: adaptation, copyright © John W. Work, 1940 Music: arrangement, copyright © John W. Work, 1940

The annual **Christmas Cookie Walk** is *Today!*

Following the Service, come along to the Guild Room and fill a box with yummy cookies and assorted sweets to celebrate the Christmas season. Your donations for the goodies will be gratefully accepted and will be shared equally with our church and Hamilton Out of the Cold. Please speak to Jean Williams or Beth Mackay Reilly if you have any questions. Merry Christmas!

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 15, 10:30 a.m.	Third Sunday of Advent
~ Sunday, December 15 after worship	Christmas Cookie Walk
~ Monday, December 16, 10:00 a.m. - Noon	HOOTC Café
~ Monday, December 16, 7:30 p.m.	Search Committee Meeting
~ Thursday, December 19, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	HOOTC Meals to Go
~ Thursday, December 19, 7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
~ Sunday, December 22, 10:30 a.m.	Fourth Sunday of Advent- Christmas Pageant
~ Tuesday, December 24, 8:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Worship ~ Candlelight Communion
~ Sunday, January 5, 10:30 a.m.	In Memoriam Worship Service
~ Friday, January 10, 5:00 p.m.	Central Youth

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 - 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/>

Stewardship Moments: *Inspiring Generosity*



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.

A/C Appeal

Dear Congregation,

In the dead of winter, we are making an appeal for 5 Air Conditioning Units! The total cost is \$50,000. This Spring, they will be installed in the Boardroom, the Vestry, the Nursery and the Alan room.

This need results from the reconfiguration of our interior space to welcome new tenants in the nursery, as well as in the 3rd floor classrooms. These rentals will now provide us with regular income which enables us to offer sacred space for worship, a safe gathering place for the community, and of course concert space for Music@Central and music space for choirs and concerts in the city of Hamilton.

A donation for \$1500 has already been pledged to start the campaign. You are welcome to make your donation online, by cheque, or even in the offering plate marked **A/C appeal**. We will keep you updated as we progress toward our goal of **\$50,000!**

Jim Morgan
Chair RMC



Word of the Day:

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God (Mark 1.1).

Prompts for Reflection



*Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her king
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and Heaven and nature sing
-Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

*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 Frebold
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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