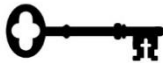




TO WORSHIP GOD,
to grow as disciples of Jesus,
TO CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER,
to take God's love to the world.



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

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAMILTON

March 2, 2025 10:30 a.m.

Transformation Sunday Worship Service

**Minister – Rev. Dr. Nick Athanasiadis
Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes
Lector – Johanna DeBruin
Greeters – Jim & Myrna Evel**

A Warm Welcome to Worship at Central this morning!

* *Indicates standing, as you are able.*

PRELUDE *On the Banks Of The Jordan*

R. Anderson

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT *Swiftly Pass The Clouds Of Glory*

186 vs. 1

*Swiftly pass the clouds of glory, heaven's voice, the dazzling light;
Moses and Elijah vanish; Christ alone commands the height!
Peter, James and John fall silent, turning from the summit's rise
Downward toward the shadowed valley where their Lord has fixed his eyes.*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.** *(Ruth 2:4)*

O magnify the Lord with me,

Let us exalt the name of the Lord together. *(Ps. 34:3)*

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes;
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unhasting and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither, and perish; but naught changeth thee.
4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: oh help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

PRAYER 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 - Come, Let Us Sing To The Lord Our Song

412 (see pg. 9)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Living Faith 7.5.1-7.5.3

7.5 Sacraments

7.5.1 In obedience to our Lord's command and example
we observe two sacraments,
Baptism and Holy Communion.
These are visible expressions of the Gospel
given as means of entering and sustaining the Christian Life

**7.5.2 In Baptism and the Lord's Supper,
there is a sacramental union
between the sign and the thing signified.
Water signifies forgiveness and new life in Christ;
bread and wine, the body and blood of our Lord.**

7.5.3 The grace effective in the sacraments
comes not from any power in them
but from the work of the Holy Spirit.
Rightly received, in faith and repentance,
the sacraments convey that which they symbolize.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

* HYMN – Child Of Blessing, Child Of Promise

521 (see pg. 10)

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, Our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

BAPTISM: *Frederick James & Peter Enno LaGrand*

Following the baptism, the children will leave for Faith Finders. The older class will be preparing for the pancake brunch in the fellowship hall. The younger class will be going down in the Hub for a lesson. Please meet your child there following the service promptly. Staffed Nursery is available for our young ones up to age 4 throughout the entire service.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 99 in the Red Book of Psalms, **Refrain 1**

SCRIPTURE READING (p. 70)

Exodus 24: 12 -18

SCRIPTURE READING (p. 18)

Matthew 17:1-9

SERMON: **Transcendence and Immanence**

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* HYMN – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

371

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

2. Breathe, oh breathe thy loving Spirit
into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit,
let us find the promised rest;
take away our love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

4. Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly re stored in thee,
changed from glory into glory
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.

THE OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERTORY *Christ, Whose Glory Fills The Skies*

K. Bissell

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of righteousness, Arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night;
Day spring from on high, be near;
Day star, in my heart appear.*

* 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 (see pg. 11-12)

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.

Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three,

You are source of all that exists.

You are beyond the galaxies, deeper than the oceans;

You pour down rain and bring forth the fruit of the earth.

You carry us through deep waters and hold us in the darkest night.

So with all your creatures, great and small,

with angels and archangels, with saints and servants in every generation

we join in the rejoicing of your creation:

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy is your Son Jesus, O God,

Walking this earth, feeding the hungry, calling the lost, noticing the forgotten,

healing those who reached out, teaching those who sought wisdom,

though him your glory shone upon us.

Today we thank you for all Jesus shared with us

to show us that you are always with us in times of plenty and times of pain.

And so we celebrate the mystery of our faith in him:

Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

Holy God,
When the sounds of our rejoicing fall silent,
we remember those who cannot rejoice today,
who face times of pain or fear or upheaval.
We think especially of those whose countries are riven by conflict
or stand under the threat of force.

(silence is kept)

Draw near to them in the power of the Spirit
to strengthen and sustain them through Christ's compassion and ours.

Holy Spirit, come now and settle on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
May they become for us Christ's body and life blood,
healing, forgiving and making us whole.
So may we become Christ's body, the Church,
loving and caring throughout the whole world
until that day when all creation feasts with you
in the fullness of your mercy and peace
that we savour today in the name of our Saviour
who taught us when we pray to say together:

**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**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION (unison)

**Loving God, Christ our Lord, Holy Spirit,
you have nourished us, body and soul, in this meal.
We have heard your love, so send us out to speak it.
We have seen your love, so send us out to show it.
We have been fed by your love, so send us out to share it.
And let all things be done for your glory. Amen.**

GOD SENDS US

* HYMN – For All The Love

440 vs. 1-4 (Tune 611)

1. For all the love that from our earliest days
has gladdened life and brightened all our days,
we bring you, Lord, our song of grateful praise,
Hallelujah!
2. For all the truth from wisdom's lighted page
undimmed and pure, that shines from age to age,
God's holy word, our priceless heritage,
Hallelujah!
3. For all the joy that childhood's days have brought,
the gifts of life, of sense and heart and thought,
of life's deep meaning to our spirits taught,
Hallelujah!
4. For all the hope that sheds its glorious ray
along the dark and unknown future way,
and lights the path to God's eternal day,
Hallelujah!

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *The Power Of The Word*

D. Paxton

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).

Come, let us sing to the Lord our song

FORNEY 9889

C C/B Am G6 F G

1. Come, let us sing to the Lord our song:
 2. O thirs-ty soul, come drink at the well;
 3. You dwell a - mong us and cause us to pray, and
 4. Des - erts shall bloom and moun - tains shall sing

Em Am Am/G F G

we have stood si - lent - ly too long;
 God's liv - ing wa - ters will nev - er fail.
 walk with each oth - er fol - lowing your way;
 to the de - sire of all liv - ing things.

C C/B Am G6 Fmaj7 G

sure - ly the Lord de - serves our praise, so
 Sure - ly the Lord will help you to stand,
 our prec - ious bro - thers and sis - ters will grow
 Come, all you crea - tures, high and low;

Dm G Am Em F G C

joy - ful - ly thank God for our days,
 strength - ened and com - for - ted by God's hand.
 in the ful - fill - ing love they know.
 let your prais - es end - less - ly flow.

Words: Jim Strathdee (1941-) Music: Jim Strathdee (1941-); arrangement, Jean Strathdee (1944-)

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521

Child of blessing, child of promise

STUTTGART 8787

F C/E Dm /C Bb6 C F C/E F Bb Csus4-3 F

1. Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap-tized with the Spir-it's sign,
 2. Child of love, our love's ex-pres-sion, love's cre - a - tion, loved in - deed!
 3. Child of joy, our dear-est treas-ure, God's you are; from God you came.
 4. Child of God, your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to know whose child you are;

Dm Gm6/D A/C# Dm Bb6 F/C C F/A Bb F Dm Csus4-3 7 F

with this wa - ter God has sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.
 Fresh from God, re - fresh our spir - its, in - to joy and laugh - ter lead.
 Back to God we hum-bly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.
 grow to laugh and sing and wor-ship, trust and love God more than all.

Words: Ronald S. Cole-Turner (1948-) Music: Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge 1715; harmony, William Henry Havergal (1793-1870)

Words: copyright © Ronald S. Cole-Turner, 1981 Music: public domain

Communion

534

All who hunger, gather gladly

HOLY MANNA 8 7 8 7 D

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

Bbmaj7 Dm C/E Dm C Bbmaj7

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 Bbmaj7 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.

The sympathies of the congregation are extended to the family of Pat Boothe who passed away peacefully on Tuesday, February 25. Pat, as well as her late husband Doug, were very active members of Central.

We hold in our prayers their children, Alan, Susan, George and their families. A service of thanksgiving for her life will be held here at Central later in March.

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.

Invitation to Membership

As there has been a request for membership here at Central, we are extending this invitation to adherents and friends of this congregation who may also be interested. Membership is not about being religious or increasing your attendance. Membership is about committing yourself at this point in your life to journeying toward God in the company of a particular fellowship of God's people. If this congregation is helping and supporting your spiritual journey, you are encouraged to become a member.

If you are interested, or would like to know more, please reach out to Dr. Nick Athanasiadis. We plan to welcome new members On Palm/Passion Sunday April 13.

Central Presbyterian Church Calendar

~ Sunday, March 2, 10:30 a.m.	Baptism, Communion Sunday & Pancake Brunch
~ Sunday, March 2, 3:00 p.m.	Music@Central: Stephan Sylvestre Piano Recital
~ Monday, March 3, 10:00 a.m. – Noon	HOOTC Café
~ Monday, March 3, 7:30 p.m.	Search Committee Meeting (Allan Room)
~ Tuesday, March 4, 10:00 a.m. – Noon	Knit & Knatter Group (Guild Room)
~ Wednesday, March 5, 10:30 a.m.	Ash Wednesday Service
~ Thursday, March 6, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.	HOOTC Meals to Go
~ Thursday, March 6, 7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
~ Sunday, March 9	Daylight Savings Time begins
~ Sunday, April 27	Dr. Nick's Retirement Service and Lunch

Please note that next week Sunday, March 9th, Daylight Savings Time begins.



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/

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.

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/

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 2nd 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.



You are welcome to make your donation online, by cheque, or even in the offering plate marked **A/C appeal**. Donations of \$15,275.55 have been received towards the A/C appeal. We will keep you updated as we progress toward our goal of **\$50,000!**

Jim Morgan
Chair RMC

Stewardship Moment

Think of us
in this way,
as servants of Christ
and stewards
of God's mysteries.

1 Corinthians 4:1

The Presbyterian Church in Canada presbyterian.ca

Commission free-week for Gifts of Securities

Scotia McLeod is offering their spring commission-free week March 3–6, 2025. During this time, they will sell gifts **under \$10,000 CAD or \$10,000 USD** without charging a commission. (The normal commission is \$140 for gifts under \$6,000; \$175 for gifts between \$6,001 and \$9,999).

Please note: Multiple partial sales of the same stock, together worth more than \$10,000, are not eligible. Donors wanting to give greater than \$10,000, can donate multiple stocks, providing the total value of same stock is under \$10,000.

To take advantage of this commission-free offer, **the securities must be in the PCC account by the end of the day on Thursday March 6, 2025.** Securities donated prior to March 6 will be sold during the commission-free week with the donor's written instructions. The receipt will still reflect the market value of the stock on the day the securities were deposited into the PCC account, and the beneficiary will receive the proceeds (plus/minus any gain/loss) of the stock sale.

NOTE: Scotiabank offers these commission-free weeks quarterly (usually the beginning of March, June, September and December). Unfortunately, we never have the exact dates until right before the week begins. Donors wanting to participate in these weeks can donate the securities close to those time periods and we can hold them for sale until the commission-free week. However, it requires balancing the cost of the broker fee verses the risk of the change in value of the stock.

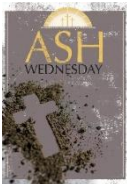
To donate for commission-free weeks, please mark "Commission Free Week" on the donation form and *email us a copy of your completed donation form to ensure proper allocation of the gift and the issuing of the tax receipt.*

Please feel free to contact Maggie mleung@presbyterian.ca if there are any questions. She is happy to help you navigate the paperwork. 416-441-1111 or 1-800-619-7301 ext. 239

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/>



LENT Begins

March 5, 10:30 A.M. Ash Wednesday Service of Worship and Reflection

You are invited to join us for the beginning of our Lenten journey. This service will be a time of reflection and worship, followed by a time of fellowship and refreshments.



Holy Week

April 13, 10:30 A.M. Palm/Passion Sunday Service of Worship



For many, the procession of the palms re-enacted by children of our church schools is a vivid and lasting memory of this day. But once you know the whole story of this week, it is hard to see Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem except as set against his passion – betrayal, humiliation and death.

Since about the fourth century, the joy of Christ's triumphal entry has been set in deliberate contrast to the passion narrative. This, the first Sunday in Holy Week, begins the seven days of redemption drama.

April 17, 7:00 P.M. Maundy Thursday Service of Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday, Maundy from the Latin *Mandatum*, meaning commandment. Jesus said, ³⁴*I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.* ³⁵*By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'*



This night is a time to remember Jesus' vision of beloved community – to feed and be fed, to love and be loved. This night, we remember the events of Jesus' last night with his disciples.

April 18 10:30 A.M. Good Friday Service of Worship and Reflection

7:00 P.M. Good Friday Choir Concert: Central Choir and soloists perform the beloved and passionate Requiem by W. A. Mozart.



Concert presented by the Central Presbyterian Choir and Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Marcus Scholtes. Freewill offering at the door.

On this, a most faithful and a most fateful day in the long history of God's people, we reach the climax in the unfolding drama of the life and ministry of Jesus.

April 20, 10:30 A.M. Easter Sunday Service of Worship

We celebrate the resurrection!

Featuring *The Hamilton Brass Quintet*

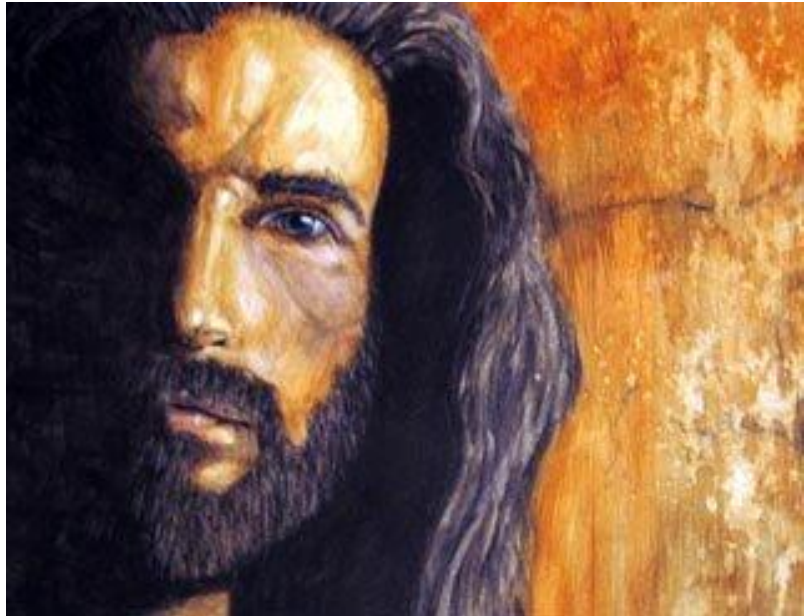
Early on that morning, the first witnesses tell us: their alarm subsided, their courage deepened, their trauma healed, and their amazement grew. They learned how to choose hope.



Word of the day *And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ... But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.'* And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.
(Matthew 17: 2 & 7-8)

Prompts for Reflection

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving - which we pray in its various versions during communion - recognizes that God is transcendent, beyond our capacity to encircle and comprehend, and yet God becomes immanent, present to us in the face of Jesus.



The transcendence:

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

But also the immanence:

*We thank you for Jesus
who came from you to
show us your way;
who loved us even in death;
and whose presence is
still among us. AMEN.*

*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
Nursery Coordinator – Brenda Ziemann
Sunday & Special Event Custodian – Geoff French*

Telephone: 905-522-9098

Email: info@cpchamilton.ca

www.cpchamilton.ca

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