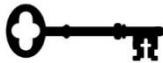




TO WORSHIP GOD,
to grow as disciples of Jesus,
TO CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER,
to take God's love to the world.



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

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAMILTON

March 9, 2025 10:30 a.m.

First Sunday of Lent Worship Service

Minister – Rev. Dr. Nick Athanasiadis

Director of Music Ministries – Dr. Marcus Scholtes

Call to Worship – Sandor family

Lector – Judy Johnson

Greeters – Pam & Lee Carpenter

A Warm Welcome to Worship at Central this morning!

* *Indicates standing, as you are able.*

PRELUDE *O Divine Redeemer*

C. Gounod, Arr. by T. Kendall

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT *Throughout These Lenten Days And Nights*

196 vs. 1&2

*Throughout these Lenten days and nights we turn to walk the inward way,
Where, meeting Christ, our guide and light, we live in hope till Easter day.*

*The pilgrim Christ, the Lamb of God, who found in weakness greater power,
Embraces us, though lost and flawed, and leads us to his rising hour.*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Refer to First Sunday of Lent insert

* HYMN – O God, Thou Art My God Alone

37 (Tune 67)

1. O God, thou art my God alone;
early to thee my soul shall cry,
a pilgrim in a land unknown,
a thirsty land whose springs are dry.

2. Yet through this rough and thorny maze
I follow hard on thee, my God;
thy hand unseen up holds my ways;
I safely tread where thou hast trod.

3. Thee in the watches of the night
when I remember on my bed,
thy presence makes the darkness light;
thy guardian wings are round my head.

4. Better than life itself, thy love,
dearer than all beside to me,
for whom have I in heaven above,
or what on earth, compared with thee?

5. Praise with my heart, my mind, my voice,
for all thy mercy I will give;
my soul shall still in God rejoice;
my tongue shall bless thee while I live.

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 - You Who Dwell In the Shelter / On Eagle's Wings

57 (see pg. 5-6)

GOD SPEAKS TO US

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 91:1-4, 14-16 in the Red Book of Psalms, **Refrain 1**

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Following the Time with the Children, a program for children SK – Grade 8 will be available in the downstairs HUB area. 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. 61)

Luke 4:1-13

SCRIPTURE READING (p. 235)

I Peter 5:6-11

SERMON: *"Bread and Circuses"*

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* HYMN - Spirit Of God, Descend Upon My Heart

382 (see pg. 7)

THE OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERTORY *Jesus, So Lowly*

H. Friedell

*Jesus, so lowly, Child of the earth: Christen me wholly, Bring me new birth.
Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad; Teach me that only Love maketh glad.
Jesus, so broken, Silent and pale; Be this the token Love will not fail.
Jesus, victorious, mighty and free; Reigns in glory, Bringing light and peace.*

* 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 - Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation

482

1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the church in one,
holy Ziion's help forever,
and her confidence alone.

2. All with in that holy city,
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pour perpetual melody,
God the One in Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.

3. To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of hosts, today:
with thy faithful loving kindness,
hear thy servants as they pray,
and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls always.

4. Here bestow on all thy servants
what they ask of thee to gain,
what they gain from thee forever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory
evermore with thee to reign.

5. Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three, and ever One,
one in might and one in glory,
while unending ages run.

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *A Song in Lent*

P. Taylor

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!

You who dwell in the shelter / On Eagle's Wings

ON EAGLE'S WINGS Irregular

Solo or choir G(sus#4)

Dmaj7/F#

G(sus#4)



1. You who dwell in the shel-ter of our God, who a-bide in this shad-ow for

Dmaj7/F#

F

Dm


Bb

Gm

Asus4



life, say to the Lord: "My ref-uge, my Rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain  A7

D

Em

A7



All "And I will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



D

D7

G

A7

Bm

Em F#m7

G6

A 7

D



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand."



after last refrain (Solo or choir)

A7

Bm7

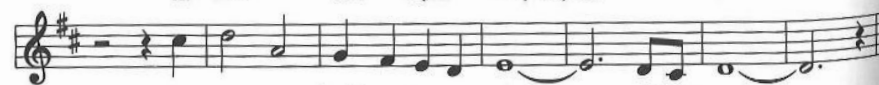
Em

F#m7

G6 (Em7)

A7

D



and hold you, hold you in the palm of my hand."

Words: Psalm 91; paraphrase, Michael Joncas (1951-) Music: Michael Joncas (1951-)

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G(sus#4) Dmaj7/F#

2. The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and

G(sus#4) Dmaj7/F# F

fam-ine will bring you no fear: un-der God's wings your

Dm F Gm Asus4 D.S.

ref-uge, God's faith-ful-ness your shield.

D G(sus#4) Dmaj7/F#

3. You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the

G(sus#4) Dmaj7/F# F

ar-row that flies by day; though thou-sands fall a-

Dm F Gm Asus4 D.S.

bout you, near you it shall not come.

G(sus#4) Dmaj7/F#

4. For to God's an-gels is giv-en a com-mand to

G(sus#4) Dmaj7/F# F

guard you in all of your ways, up-on their hands they will

Gm Am Bb(maj9) Asus4 D.S.

bear you up, lest you dash your foot a-against a stone.

God the Holy Spirit

382 Spirit of God, descend upon my heart

MORECAMBE 10 10 10 10

C G7/B C F C/E Dm G7 C Am 7 B /D#

1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart; wean it from
2. I ask no dream, no proph-et ec - sta - sies, no sud-den
3. Hast thou not bid me love thee, God and King? All, all thine
4. Teach me to feel that thou art al-ways nigh; teach me the
5. Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love, one ho - ly

Em A7/E G/D (Am/D) D7 G G7 F/G

earth; through all its puls - es move. Stoop to my weak - ness,
rend - ing of the veil of clay, no an - gel mes - sen -
own, soul, heart and strength and mind; I see thy cross; there
strug - gles of the soul to bear, to face the ris - ing
pas - sion fill - ing all my frame: the bap-tism of the

G7 (F/G G7 F/G) C 6 G7/D F#sus4-3 C/GF/A C/G G7 C

migh - ty as thou art, and make me love thee as I ought to love.
ger, no o-peningskies, but take the dim-ness of my soul a - way.
teach my heart to cling: oh let me seek thee and oh let me find.
doubt, the reb - el sigh; teach me the pa-tience of un - an-swered prayer.
heaven de-scend-ed Dove, my heart an al - tar and thy love the flame.

Words: George Croly (1780-1860), alt Music: ascribed to Frederick Cook Atkinson (1841-1860)

Words: public domain Music: public domain

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).

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 on March 14 at 11:00 a.m.

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.

We extend congratulations to Chimezie Umezio, husband of Chidinma, who was ordained last Sunday as an elder in the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria.

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 - 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 2025: Join Kate Bowler this lent season: THE HARDEST PART

Life is this strange, tender mix, isn't it? Joy and sorrow, love and loss, heartbreak and hope, all tangled together. This year, embrace Lent as it is – raw, honest, and tender. Let these 40 days be a time to pause, reflect, and find the courage to stay with the hard part, trusting that the good part is still coming. katebowler.com/lent

Central Presbyterian Church Calendar

~ Sunday, March 9

~ Sunday, March 9, 10:30 a.m.

~ Monday, March 10, 10:00 a.m. – Noon

~ Monday, March 17, 7:30 p.m.

~ Tuesday, March 11, 10:00 a.m. – Noon

~ Thursday, March 13, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

~ Thursday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.

~ Friday, March 14, 11:00 a.m.

~ Tuesday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.

~ Sunday, April 6, 3:00 p.m.

~ Sunday, April 27

Daylight Savings Time begins

First Sunday of Lent Worship Service

HOOTC Café

Search Committee Meeting (Allan Room)

Knit & Knatter Group (Guild Room)

HOOTC Meals to Go

Choir Practice

Funeral for Pat Boothe

Central Book Club

Music@Central: Enchanted Flutes

Dr. Nick's Retirement Service and Lunch

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/

Pancake Brunch: Special thanks to Kristel Forcier; the Faith Finders who did all the cooking for the Pancake Brunch; and to John Forcier, Sara Traficante, Kirk Starkey, Beth McKay Reilly, Jean Williams, and Pam and Lee Carpenter for helping in the kitchen with cooking and clean up! We raised \$290 for HOOTC. 😊

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.

Wise and Loving God,

You know all things good for us, and your Holy Spirit leads us in your way. Guide us to the minister that you have prepared to come and serve your people here at Central. Fill us with vision, with energy, and openness as we seek the person you've chosen for us.

We thank you for all those in our midst that you move to lead, contribute to, or enrich the ministries at Central. We thank you for the plans you have for our church community - both known and unknown to us.

Throughout this season of uncertainty and change, give us mutual love for each other, patience in the work that lies ahead, and wisdom to discern. Let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus. Send your Holy Spirit here to move in us and through us, so that we may hear the voice of the person best suited for Central.

Prepare us to receive our new minister with joy and enthusiasm - and may our new minister serve us with equal joy. May their ministry mark a new chapter in Central's story: a chapter of continued vibrancy, of growth, and of renewal in service of the Triune God. Amen

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/

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.



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

The one who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! (Revelation 22: 20-21).

Prompts for Reflection

In the prodigious catastrophes of human history, in the catalogue of kingdoms and empires which come and go, in their rise and fall, in the litany of grasping men who grasp for power before it inevitably slips from their hand, in all this—the love Christ incarnates is rejected over and again. And yet, the divine love does not cease, does not diminish, does not die, but will accomplish that which it intends—the final redemption of the world. This truth cannot be apprehended by the mind—for it is foolishness to human wisdom, but it is apprehended by faith. Faith sees what human eyes cannot, and so we pray in faith

"Come, Lord Jesus!"

- Nick Athanasiadis



Scene from the Isenheim Altarpiece

- Nikolaus & Matthias Grunewald, c1512-1516

*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*

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