



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
*Church of Hamilton*

## Order of Service

### February 8, 2026

#### Prelude

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Preparation

*“Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”*

*- Hebrews 4:16*

\* **Call to Worship:** Psalm 55:1-2

Leader: Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!

People: **Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.**

Leader: Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy?

**Unison:** *Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare.*

\* **Hymn:** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

\* **Invocation**

\* **Song of Response:** ..... We Fall Down

We fall down	And we cry holy, holy, holy
We lay our crowns	We cry holy, holy, holy
At the feet of Jesus	We cry holy, holy, holy
The greatness of	Is the lamb
Mercy and love	
At the feet of Jesus	

**Children’s Message** ..... Craig Story

**Scripture Reading .....** Psalm 16

Keep me safe, my God, for in you I take refuge.

I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing." I say of the holy people who are in the land, "They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight. Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more. I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods or take up their names on my lips.

Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance. I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

- **Hymn:** Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine

**Prayer For Our Church Family**

**Offertory .....** Yuka Langlais

*"One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple."*

*- Psalm 27:4*

**\* Doxology**

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  
Amen

**Sermon:** *"Following Jesus: At his Feet"* ..... Oli van Ruth

Luke 10:38-42

- **Hymn:** Speak, O Lord

- **Call to Prayer and Benediction**

**Postlude**

## 43 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

*For then shalt thou have thy delight in the Almighty. Job 22:26*

Joachim Neander, 1680  
Trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863

LOBE DEN HERREN 14 14 4 7 8  
Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al-might - y, the King of cre - a -  
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly reign -  
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de - fend  
4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore

tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and sal -  
eth, Shel - ters thee un - der His wings, yea, so gen - tly sus -  
thee; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at -  
Him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais - es be -

va - tion! All ye who hear, Now to His tem - ple draw  
tain - eth! Hast thou not seen How thy de - sires e'er have  
tend thee. Pon - der a - new What the Al - might - y can  
fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His peo - ple a -

near; Join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
been Grant - ed in what He or - dain - eth?  
do, If with His love He be - friend thee.  
gain: Glad - ly for aye we a - dore Him. A - men.

# Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine 317

*I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being. Psa. 146:2*

Fanny J. Crosby, 1873

ASSURANCE 9 10 9 9 Ref.

Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O, what a fore - taste of  
2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, Vi - sions of rap - ture now  
3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my Sav - ior am

glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God,  
burst on my sight; An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a - bove  
hap - py and blest; Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove,

*Refrain*

Born of His Spir - it, washed in His blood.  
Ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love. This is my sto - ry, this is my  
Filled with His good-ness, lost in His love.

song, Prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long; This is my sto - ry,  
this is my song, Prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

## Speak, O Lord

by Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You  
To receive the food of Your holy Word  
    Take Your truth, plant it deep in us  
    Shape and fashion us in Your likeness  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
    In our acts of love and our deeds of faith  
    Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
    All Your purposes for Your glory

    Teach us, Lord, full obedience  
    Holy reverence, true humility  
    Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
    In the radiance of Your purity  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see  
    Your majestic love and authority  
    Words of pow'r that can never fail  
    Let their truth prevail over unbelief

    Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us  
    Truths unchanged from the dawn of time  
    That will echo down through eternity  
And by grace, we'll stand on Your promises  
And by faith, we'll walk as You walk with us  
    Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built  
    And the earth is filled with Your glory

    And by grace, we'll stand on Your promises  
And by faith, we'll walk as You walk with us  
    Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built  
    And the earth is filled with Your glory

## — SERMON TEXT & NOTES —

## Luke 10:38-42 (ESV)

38 Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. 39 And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. 40 But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." 41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, 42 but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
Church of Hamilton

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 8, 2026

**Our mission** is to rejoice in God, grow in the gospel, and point people to Jesus.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Signup for events



- Today - Children's Ministry Parents Council, 9:45 am
- February 10 - Seiberts Road to Wisdom book discussion, 7:00 pm
- February 12 - Rendalls Road to Wisdom book discussion, 7:00 pm
- February 13-15 - Middle School Winter Retreat, 3:45 pm
- February 15 - Winter/Spring Adult Sunday School classes begin, 9:45 am
- February 15 - Welcome Milestone class, 9:45 am
- February 17 - Women's Gathering at the Post, 7:00 pm
- February 18 - Ash Wednesday service, 7:00 pm

## NEW TO OUR CHURCH?

**Welcome!** We are glad you chose to join us this morning! If you have questions please ask an usher.

**For families we provide children's church.** During our 8:30 am service, our supervised Nursery is for infants through age 3, and our Little People's Church (LPC) program is for children age 4 through 1st grade. LPC meets following the Children's Message. During the 11:00 am service, the Nursery room is staffed as a combined space for infants and toddlers.

## Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 am

- Infants, preschool and kindergarten age children gather in the Meetinghouse
- Elementary age children meet in the lower level of the Ministry Center
- Middle schoolers meet in the Ministry Center, Room 11
- High schoolers meet in the Barn
- Adult classes
  - *Getting Along God's Way* with Dr. Katherine Horvath, Chapel
  - *Christians and Immigration: The Bible, Ethics, and Ministry to Immigrants* with Dr. Glenn Butner, Barn

Download our app



**Additional resources:** We have the Deacons fund, prayer chain, helping hands ministry, meals ministry, pastoral counseling, and other resources to help. Contact us at [info@fcchamilton.org](mailto:info@fcchamilton.org).

**Hearing-Assist Devices and Large-Print Bibles:** We have hearing-assist devices that help reduce ambient noise when listening to the sermon in the sanctuary; we also have large-print bibles. Please see an usher for assistance.



## ALL-CHURCH SURVEY

As we enter a new and exciting season of ministry at FCCH, we would love to hear from you as members and regular attenders of our church. The first way you can provide your input is by completing our all-church online survey. Later this afternoon, you'll receive an email with the survey link. We look forward to hearing from all of you!

## SUPPORT OTHERS WHILE GROWING DEEPER IN CHRIST!

Our Stephen Ministry training has been postponed to February in hopes of having more participants. Please sign up for our new dates if you're interested. As a Stephen Minister, you'll be able to support and care for your fellow Christians going through a difficult time, such as loneliness, relocation, divorce, grief, hospitalization, or unemployment. The 20 training sessions will be held every other Tuesday at 7:00 pm, beginning in late February. To learn more, please email [info@fcchamilton.org](mailto:info@fcchamilton.org), or to register, use the QR code above.

## **NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINNING FEBRUARY 15**

We hope you've grown in the past six weeks during our Winter Adult Sunday School classes. Beginning Sunday, February 15, we'll start all-new Sunday School classes with different topics and teachers. The new class titles are listed below. Check our website for class descriptions and locations.

- **Becoming a Sanctuary: Mental Health Care and the Church** with Yuka Langlais and Lisa Clay
- **So Great a Salvation: Growing Deeper into the Gospel in a Smartphone World** with Dr. Jack Davis
- **Loving God with Head, Heart, and Hands** with Dr. Kerilyn Harkaway-Krieger

Dr. Eckhardt Schnabel's class on **Understanding 1st & 2nd Corinthians** will begin on March 22.

## **SUPPORT OTHERS WHILE GROWING DEEPER IN CHRIST!**

Our Stephen Ministry training has been postponed in hopes of having more participants. Please sign up for our new dates if you're interested. As a Stephen Minister, you'll be able to support and care for your fellow Christians going through a difficult time, such as loneliness, relocation, divorce, grief, hospitalization, or unemployment. The 20 training sessions will be held every other Tuesday at 7:00 pm, beginning in late February. Email [info@fcchamilton.org](mailto:info@fcchamilton.org), or to register, use the QR code above.

## **COMMUNITY READ - THE ROAD TO WISDOM**

If you've joined our community read, *The Road to Wisdom*, by Francis Collins, you're invited to meet Dr. Collins over Zoom for the second Q&A session on Tuesday, February 17, at 8:00 pm. A Zoom link will be emailed to those participating. Contact Vicki Best with any questions at [vlbest@verizon.net](mailto:vlbest@verizon.net).

## **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**

Please join us for our Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, February 18, at 7:00 pm as we begin the season of Lent. We invite you for an evening of scripture, confession, song, prayer, and reflection upon God's Word. As a sign of our repentance and the reality of our mortal nature, ashes will be offered. As always, all are welcome, and we encourage you to invite friends and neighbors.

## **PILGRIM'S PINT PUB THEOLOGY**

*Prove It: The Historical Roots of Modern Skepticism*

Monday, February 23 (7:00 to 8:00 pm; Post Restaurant, 16 Bay Road, Hamilton)

Throughout most of human history people viewed the world through a frame of reference that was inherently transcendent and metaphysical. However, today it is not uncommon to hear claims that science and reason will soon replace religious belief entirely. Will this be the natural outcome of scientific advancement? Or could it be that an entirely different frame of reference has taken us captive, distorting what we can understand as opposed to enhancing it? Perhaps we moderns have more in common with our pre-modern forebears than we imagined. Join us on Monday, February 23 as Reverend Chip Copp dives into the relatively recent phenomenon of modern skepticism and examines the scaffolding which supports it. Register using the QR code on the front page.

## **WOMEN'S MINISTRY GATHERING AT THE POST RESCHEDULED**

Come connect and enjoy a night out with the women of our church. Share a beverage and a bite at Post (16 Bay Road, Hamilton) on Tuesday, February 17 at 7:00 pm. Hosted by the women's ministry team, we hope to see you there. Sign up by using the QR code on the front page. Registration is encouraged so you are able to receive any updates if they are needed.

## **MEN'S RETREAT**

Men are invited to the FCCH Men's Retreat on Saturday, February 28, from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. The retreat location is the Sisters of Notre Dame De Namur Motherhouse in Ipswich (30 Jeffreys Neck Road). Pastor Dan Szatkowski will speak on *Help from on High: Forgiveness 2.0*. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be served. The cost is \$22.00 (scholarships available upon request at [info@fcchamilton.org](mailto:info@fcchamilton.org)). Registration is open now; please sign up by Monday, February 23, at 5:00 pm using the QR code on the front.

## **FRIDAY MORNING MOMS GROUP**

Moms with little ones are invited to join us for an informal play date in the church Nursery on Friday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 am. Drop-ins and invited friends are always welcome. Contact Janelle Deddo, [janelle.deddo@gmail.com](mailto:janelle.deddo@gmail.com), for more details.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- **FCCH Parents Council:** Parents, teachers, and volunteers passionate about seeing our children, families, and Children's Ministry flourish are invited to join our FCCH Parents Council. The group meets today during the Sunday School hour at 9:45 am, in the lower level of the Ministry Center, room L7. We'll have special guests, Lillian Wong (*Choosing Church and Faith as a Family*) and Hana Lee (*Forming Worshipful Hearts*). We hope to see you there!
- **Welcome Milestone Class:** Parents with babies are invited to learn about our Milestones program on Sunday, February 15, during the Sunday School hour in the Meetinghouse first-floor classroom. The Welcome Milestone provides resources and support, as well as information about baptism/dedication, to new parents. Register using the QR code on the front page.
- **Vacation Bible School** is back this summer, July 13–17, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., for children from preschool through entering grade 5. Registration is now open! We're also looking for volunteers to help make VBS a great experience. If you're interested in attending or serving, please use the QR code on the front page to sign up.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

- **High School Youth Group** meets Tuesdays from 7:00 to 8:45 pm.
- **Middle School Youth Group** meets Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

## COLLEGE-AGE MINISTRY

Our College-Age Group meets tonight and regularly on Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm in the Barn for a topical study or special event.

## YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Our Young Adults Group meets on Mondays at 7:00 pm. To receive more information, contact Pastor Matt at [mschuberth@fcchamilton.org](mailto:mschuberth@fcchamilton.org).

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- **Children's Ministry:** Our Children's Ministry needs volunteers to staff our nursery during the 11:00 am worship service. We also need one adult helper to work alongside the lead teacher during the Preschool Sunday School class. Contact Chrysa Bliati at [cblati@fcchamilton.org](mailto:cblati@fcchamilton.org) to help.
- **Joni & Friends:** Joni & Friends in Lawrence offers summer camp for people with special needs. They are looking for volunteers for June 7–11, August 9–13, and August 17–21. To learn more about volunteering, contact [newengland@joniandfriends.org](mailto:newengland@joniandfriends.org).
- **Campus Monitors:** We need volunteers to serve as Campus Monitors, an important ministry that helps provide safety and peace of mind during worship. Monitors play a vital role in caring for the well-being of our congregation by keeping watch over the church building and surrounding campus. Please prayerfully consider serving in this valuable role. To volunteer, please contact Campus Monitor Volunteer Coordinator, Bonnie Mower, at [bonnie\\_mower@yahoo.com](mailto:bonnie_mower@yahoo.com).
- **Easter Yarn Donation Drive:** Women in Transition is looking for yarn donations for inmates. These incarcerated women seek to give to others through knitting and crocheting, but are running out of yarn. Please drop your leftover/new yarn in one of our bins by Sunday, March 29. Donation bins are in Fellowship Foyer and the Ministry Center hallway.