



## Order of Service

### February 22, 2026

#### Prelude

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Preparation

*“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?”*

- Isaiah 58:6-7

#### \* Call to Worship: Psalm 73:23-26

Leader: May all kings bow down to him and all nations serve him.

People: **You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory.**

Leader: Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

**Unison:** *My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.*

#### \* Hymn: Come, Christians, Join to Sing

#### \* Invocation

**Children's Message** ..... Lauren Sager

**Scripture Reading** ..... Luke 13:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

“Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’

“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

“This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

- **Song of Praise:** Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, living breath of God,  
Breathe new life into my willing soul.  
Let the presence of the risen Lord,  
Come renew my heart and make me whole.  
Cause Your Word to come alive in me;  
Give me faith for what I cannot see,  
Give me passion for Your purity;  
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.  
  
Holy Spirit, come abide within,  
May Your joy be seen in all I do.  
Love enough to cover every sin,  
In each thought and deed and attitude.  
Kindness to the greatest and the least,  
Gentleness that sows the path of peace.  
Turn my strivings into works of grace;  
Breath of God show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,  
Giving life to all that God has made,  
Show Your power once again on earth,  
Cause Your church to hunger for your ways.  
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;  
Lead us on the road of sacrifice,  
That in unity the face of Christ  
May be clear for all the world to see.

Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;  
Lead us on the road of sacrifice,  
That in unity the face of Christ  
May be clear for all the world to see.

**Story of Grace** ..... Phil Masterson

**Prayer For Our Church Family**

**Offertory:** In the Valley ..... Greta Baird, Matt Schuberth

- \* **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: Where is Your Treasure?*” ..... Oli van Ruth  
Luke 12:13-34

- **Hymn:** Build My Life

- **Call to Prayer and Benediction**

**Postlude**

# Come, Christians, Join to Sing 60

*O come, let us sing unto the Lord. Psa. 95:1*

MADRID 6 6 6 6 D.

Christian H. Bateman, 1843

Traditional Spanish melody  
Arr. by David Evans, 1927



1. Come, Chris-tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
2. Come, lift your hearts on high, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
3. Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Loud praise to Christ our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Let all, with heart and voice, Be - fore His throne re - joice;  
He is our Guide and Friend; To us He'll con - de - scand;  
On heav - en's bliss - ful shore His good - ness we'll a - dore,



Praise is His gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
His love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!"



*Offertory*  
**In the Valley**  
by Hillsong Worship

When the path that I feared  
Is the way He has set  
And I long to give in and retreat  
Still to Jesus I hold  
As I face every step  
For the Lord He will give me His peace

*Bless the Lord! He will give me His peace  
Bless the Lord! He will give me His peace  
And if I should remain in the valley today  
Bless the Lord, He will give me His peace*

When the road that I tread  
Fills my heart with despair  
And it seems that my grief has no end  
Still to Jesus I hold  
Who will walk with me there  
And the Lord He will give me His strength

*Bless the Lord! He will give me his strength  
Bless the Lord! He will give me his strength  
And if I should remain in the valley today  
Bless the Lord, He will give me His strength*

On the road that You walked  
With the weight of the cross  
All my pain and my sorrow You held  
So to you I shall hold  
You redeem every loss  
For my Lord, you have given yourself

*Bless the Lord! For he gives me Himself  
Bless the Lord! For he gives me Himself  
And if I should remain in the valley today  
Bless the Lord! For He gives me Himself  
Bless the Lord! For He gives me Himself*

## Build My Life

by Pat Barrett

Worthy of every song we could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You, we live for You

Jesus, the Name above every other name  
Jesus, the only One who could ever save  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You, we live for You

*Holy, there is no one like You  
There is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder  
And show me who You are  
And fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love to those around me*  
Jesus, the Name above every other name  
Jesus, the only One who could ever save  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You, oh, we live for You

*Holy, there is no one like You  
There is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder  
And show me who You are  
And fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love to those around me*

I will build my life upon Your love  
It is a firm foundation  
And I will put my trust in You alone  
And I will not be shaken (Repeat)

*Holy, there is no one like You  
There is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder  
And show me who You are  
And fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love to those around me*

## - SERMON TEXT & NOTES

**Luke 12:13-34 (verses 13-21 on pg. 2)**

**22** Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. **23** For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. **24** Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! **25** Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? **26** Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

**27** "Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. **28** If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! **29** And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. **30** For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. **31** But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

**32** “Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. **33** Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. **34** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

## **Winter/Spring Adult Sunday School Classes**

**Becoming a Sanctuary: Mental Health Care and the Church** – One in four people will be affected by a mental health challenge at some point in their lives, yet the stigma surrounding these experiences often prevents faith communities from responding compassionately and effectively. Join us as we learn together how to become a sanctuary and haven where individuals with mental health challenges feel safe, supported, and a sense of belonging.

Yuka Langlais, Lisa Clay, and guest presenters

Meetinghouse Chapel

**So Great a Salvation: Growing Deeper into the Gospel in a Smartphone World** – For many Christians, the gospel is limited to forgiveness of sins and a way to heaven, but while the Good News begins with forgiveness of sins it includes so much more: the fullness of the Holy Spirit; union with Christ; adoption; sanctification; predestination; the gifts of the Spirit, eternal security; experiencing Christ's presence in worship, sacrament, and daily life; and glorification. We will focus on these biblical doctrines and their applications in spiritual disciplines—such as meditating on scripture—so we do not stagnate in our Christian life, but grow deeper into the “unsearchable riches” of Christ and the gospel.

Dr. Jack Davis

Ministry Center Room 21

**Loving God with Head, Heart, and Hands** – Jesus commands us to love God with our "heart, soul, mind, and strength." Each week's, class will introduce a new spiritual discipline or activity that explores these different aspects of our worship. During heart weeks, we will practice affective and imaginative ways of connecting with God, through activities like visio divina (seeing God in a work of art) or marveling at the beauty of God seen in the creation. For soul weeks, we will try out contemplative prayer or practices of attention and openness to the Holy Spirit. In our mind sessions, we will sharpen our intellect through inductive Bible study and thoughtful dialogue. Finally, we will put our faith into motion through our strength, exploring how hospitality, service, and even physical activity can be acts of worship. We often find that we naturally gravitate toward one of these four areas to connect with God; this course invites us to strengthen all four. Let's learn together that loving the Lord is something we can practice in all areas of life.

Dr. Kerilyn Harkaway-Krieger

Ministry Center Room 23/24

**Understanding 1st & 2nd Corinthians** (begins March 22) – Join this Bible class to look deeply at the teachings for the church and Christians from 1 & 2 Corinthians. So many of the themes could be taken from our newsfeeds, and the Apostle Paul gives guidance, correction, and instruction for Christians to help them remain faithful to Jesus.

Dr. Eckhardt Schnabel

Ministry Center Room 22



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
*Church of Hamilton*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 22, 2026

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

Signup for events



## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Today - Children's Ministry Parents Council, 9:45 am
- Today - College-Age Luncheon, 12:15 pm
- Today - Make-Up Adult Sunday School classes, 12:30 pm
- February 23 - Pilgrim's Pint, 7:00 pm
- February 24 & 26 - Women's Bible Study resumes
- February 24 & 25 - Youth Groups resume, 7:00 pm
- February 28 - Men's Retreat, 9:00 am

## 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 (see insert)

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.

## PRAYER ROOM AFTER EACH WORSHIP SERVICE

Every week, an invitation is issued for prayer after the service. Prayer is so important. We recognize God's care for us and our need to depend on him. We welcome you to find counsel and prayer from our prayer team. Beginning this week, instead of having to locate the prayer room, you'll be able to pray with an elder, deacon, and pastor on the white bench at the front of the church, after the service. You can still choose to use the prayer room instead.

## MAKE-UP ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

If you were disappointed to miss the last session of our winter adult Sunday School classes, you're not alone! Dr. Katherine Horvath and Dr. Glenn Butner are returning for a final class today, from 12:30 to 1:30 pm. *Getting Along God's Way* will meet in the Chapel, and *Christians and Immigration* will meet in the Ministry Center, room 23/24. All are welcome to attend.

## FRONT PORCH STORIES

Join us for Season 6, Episode 2 of Front Porch Stories! It's a night of live and true stories from people like you, on Saturday, March 7, at 7:00 pm in the Barn. Enjoy coffee, dessert, and connecting with friends. \$5 suggested donation at the door. Intended for adults and children 13+. RSVP using the QR code on the page above.

## BOILER REPLACEMENTS

The Stewardship Committee has authorized, with the support of the Board of Elders, the purchase and installation of three new heating boilers for the Meetinghouse. One of our 15-year-old boilers failed late last year. A second failed several weeks ago, and we are currently operating on the remaining unit. Given the circumstances, this replacement qualifies as an emergency expense under our bylaws and does not require prior congregational approval. Work will begin shortly and is expected to be completed quickly. The total cost will be \$120,000 and will come entirely from the Building and Grounds Reserve Fund.

## 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)). Register by Monday, February 23, at 5:00 pm, using the QR code on the page above.

## ALL-CHURCH SURVEY

Today is the last day to share your feedback by completing our all-church online survey. Use the QR code to the right for access.



## 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. The heavens weren't that far off. However, today it is not uncommon to hear claims that science and reason will soon replace this frame of reference in the modern mind entirely. Will this be the natural outcome of scientific advancement? Or could it be that this naturalistic frame of reference actually shrinks what we can understand as opposed to enhancing it? Or perhaps modern skeptics have more in common with their religious forebears than you might think. Join us on Monday, February 23, as Rev. Chip Copp dives into the relatively recent phenomenon of modern skepticism and examines the scaffolding that supports it. Register using the QR code on the front page.

## CLIMATE CHANGE ROUNDTABLE

Wednesday, March 18, 6:30 to 8:30 pm in Heritage Hall

The First Congregational Church of Hamilton (FCCH) and the American Scientific Affiliation (ASA) are co-sponsoring this roundtable discussion featuring Jessica Moerman, President/CEO of the Evangelical Environmental Network. The evening will include Jessica's presentation on *Climate Change: What God's Creation Is Telling Us and What We Can Do*, followed by a light dinner and facilitated table discussions on the topic. The event is open to the general public. Sign up using the QR code on the front page.

## 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 us 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*).
- **Vacation Bible School** is back this summer, July 13–17, from 9:00 am to noon, 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. 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.

## **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.

## **COLLEGE-AGE MINISTRY**

Our college-age students are invited to lunch after the 11:00 am service today, in the Ministry Center Café. We'll bring the food—you bring the good times! See you there.

## **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**

- **AV Team:** Want to help our church with technology? We're looking for volunteers to help with our Sunday Service sound and livestream. No experience needed—training provided! If interested, contact Jay Foss, Director of Sound and Technology, at [av@fcchamilton.org](mailto:av@fcchamilton.org).
- **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 [cbliati@fcchamilton.org](mailto:cbliati@fcchamilton.org) to help.
- **Easter Yarn Donation Drive:** Women in Transition is looking for yarn donations for inmates. These incarcerated women 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.

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### **PLACE YOUR ORDER FOR EASTER FLOWERS!**

Keeping with tradition, we are asking for your help to bring some Easter beauty to the Gordon College Chapel with Easter lilies, tulips, and daffodils. If you would like to lend flowers for the chapel on Easter Sunday, please indicate the type of flower, the quantity, and whether you would like to give your flowers in honor or memory of someone. Orders are due by Sunday, March 15. Remember to pick them up after the Easter Service on Sunday, April 5.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone/Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I wish to lend: Easter Lily (\$18 each) #\_\_\_\_ Tulip (\$27 each) #\_\_\_\_ Daffodil (\$26 each) #\_\_\_\_**

**Given in honor/memory of (circle one):** \_\_\_\_\_

Drop this form and a check (made out to First Congregational Church) in the offering plate or use the QR code to the right.

